Celebrate 4th of July with Safety in Mind

Fireworks, parades, picnics, and get-togethers are Independence Day traditions. The Lane County Sheriff’s Office would like to wish all of our community members a happy 4th of July, and remind everyone to take a few extra precautions when enjoying the holiday festivities.

**Firework Safety**

- Set up a safe place to enjoy your fireworks away from dry grass, bushes, and flammable decorations.
- Establish an area a safe distance away from the fireworks where children can safely observe. Never give small children fireworks.
- Read the label on fireworks before lighting to determine how much space is needed. Some fireworks move horizontally on the ground and need several feet of “safe space”.
- Keep a bucket of water, a hose, and a fire extinguisher nearby.
- Eye protection is recommended when lighting fireworks and for those standing nearby.
- Spent fireworks, including those considered “duds,” should be allowed to cool, then immersed in a bucket of water to prevent them from starting fires. After they have been extinguished, they can be placed in a trash can for disposal.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Never point sparklers or fireworks at yourself or others.

**Pet Safety**

- Leave pets at home when attending fireworks displays, preferably indoors. Loud noises can be startling for pets, and likely won’t be as enjoyable for them as they are for you!
- Keep alcoholic beverages in a safe place away from pets. Alcohol can make your pet very sick and can even be deadly.
- Make sure your pet has current identification tags in the event that they escape or break loose and become lost.

There are several organized 4th of July events that are occurring throughout many of our communities. Click here to see a list of holiday events: [http://bit.ly/1CGSxab](http://bit.ly/1CGSxab)

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