Celebrate 4th of July with Safety in Mind

Fireworks, parades, picnics, and get-togethers are Independence Day traditions. The Lane County Sheriff’s Office reminds residents of the increased fire danger posed by fireworks during the holiday due to the warm and dry conditions that are typically present in July. We 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. Fireworks should only be lit by adults, and matches and lighters should be kept out of reach of children.
- Spent fireworks, including those considered “duds,” should be allowed to cool for 15-20 minutes, 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.
- If you are on a regular landscape irrigation schedule, the 4th of July is a good day to water your lawn as wet landscaping is less likely to ignite than dry landscaping.

Pet Safety

- Leave pets at home and indoors when attending firework displays. 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.
The below materials are courtesy of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. More information can be found at [https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/Pages/Fireworks.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/Pages/Fireworks.aspx)
Lane County Sheriff’s Office

News Release

Keep It Legal - Keep It Safe
Illegal Fireworks

State of Oregon Fireworks Chart:

**Illegal:** Any firework that flies into the air, explodes, or behaves in an uncontrollable and unpredictable manner.

**Warning label may say:** “Shoots Flaming Balls.”

**Oregon Laws Violated:**
ORS 480.120

**Violation Charged:**
Class B Misdemeanor

Contact OSFM or the OSP Explosives Unit at 503-378-3720 for assistance with disposing illegal fireworks.

Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal
503-934-8274 | oregon.gov/osp/sfm | sfm.lp@state.or.us | fb.com/OregonStateFireMarshal | twitter.com/OSFM

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