

Fireworks

LEAVE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS!

Fireworks are spectacular to watch but can be dangerous in the hands of amateurs. When celebrating the 4th of July the Sedro-Woolley Fire Department would like to remind residents to attend fireworks displays put on by trained professionals who follow the fire codes designed to keep us all safe. There are fireworks that are being sold that may be illegal. If you have any questions on what type of fireworks are legal or illegal please contact the Sedro-Woolley Fire Department.

Statistics from a report by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) show that fireworks annually cause tens of millions of dollars in property damage and thousands of injuries, as well as some deaths. Injuries from the intense heat of fireworks, typically harms the eyes, head, hands, arms or legs and can cause blindness, lacerations, amputations and burns. Some burns leave lifetime, disfiguring scars.

Playing with fireworks invites disaster. It's just not worth the risk!

Children are at greatest risk from fireworks, whether as spectators or active participants. According to the NFPA, 60 percent of fireworks injuries are to people under age 20, with children between the ages of 10 and 14 most at risk.

As parents and adults, we have a responsibility to protect our children. While most parents work year round to keep children safe, if they attempt to shoot off illegal fireworks in their backyards, they are placing their children at substantial risk. Even sparklers, which can heat up to 1200°F, pose a serious danger in a child's hand, or anyone's for that matter.

The NFPA, whose mission is to increase fire safety worldwide, strongly supports our local fire departments' efforts to restrict the use of fireworks. NFPA has worked for more than 50 years to limit the use of virtually all fireworks by the general public. The association believes fireworks can be too unpredictable to be used safely by amateurs.

In the City of Sedro-Woolley, legal fireworks can only be discharged on the fourth of July only and between the hours of 9 am to 11 pm.