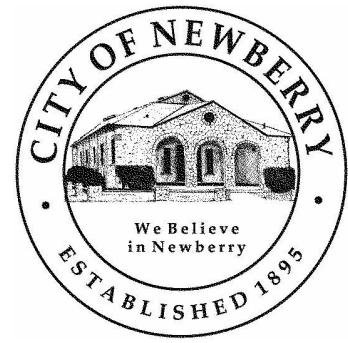




FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

July 2009



- Never let children handle, play with, or light any fireworks.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from the reach of children.
- Always purchase your fireworks from reliable, licensed fireworks dealers.
- Use in a clear, open area. Keep audience a safe distance away from the shooting side.
- Safety glasses are recommended for those individuals lighting the fireworks or those in close proximity to the fireworks.
- Do not alter any fireworks device or make your own fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- Never attempt to re-light, alter, or fix any "dud" firework item.
- Have a fire extinguisher, water supply, hose, or bucket of water nearby.
- Be cautious of lighting any fireworks during strong wind conditions and light fireworks with prevailing wind blowing away from the spectators.
- Never smoke when handling fireworks.
- Do not use alcohol with fireworks.
- Never aim, point, or throw fireworks at another person.
- Use fireworks outdoors - never indoors.

The use of fireworks in general is very dangerous and many injuries are caused by many types of items that are sold at local fireworks outlets. In 2005, the use of fireworks resulted in over 1800 structure fires and 700 vehicle fires across the United States. Reported injuries were even more dramatic. In 2006, an estimated 9,200 people were treated at hospitals for firework injury related incidents. One third of those injured were under the age of 15. The most commonly used fireworks, such as fountains and sparklers, accounted for over 28% of these injuries. Parents should supervise the use of fireworks by children to reduce the risk of injury.