

County Reminds Residents of Fireworks Safety

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St. Charles County, Missouri - The 4th of July is coming up, and St. Charles County Government reminds you to be cautious when using fireworks. County ordinances allow for the use of fireworks between 10 a.m. and 11 p.m. from July 2nd through July 5th.

Items prohibited by ordinance within St. Charles County include “any firecrackers, fireworks, torpedoes, bombs, pin wheels, fire balloons, roman candles, toy cannons, toy pistols, missile aerial fireworks containing a stick or fin or other fireworks containing a stick or fin” which would include bottle rockets.

Children, 15 and under, are prohibited from using fireworks unless they are under supervision of an adult.

Exercise caution when using fireworks. Due to the recent heat wave and dry conditions it is advised to be careful around grass and shrubs as they can easily catch fire. Here are some guidelines for using fireworks:

- Keep a source of water handy, whether it be a bucket of water or a hose.
- Stay a safe distance away when using fireworks.
- Light only one item at a time. Attempting to light more than one can result in severe injury.
- Point the item away from other people.
- Have a designated “shooter.” Alcohol and fireworks are a dangerous combination.
- Refrain from relighting malfunctioning fireworks.
- Avoid using glass or metal containers as a base for shooting fireworks.

“We hope everyone enjoys a safe and happy holiday,” said Chuck Gross, Director of Administration for the County. “Because of the heat and dry conditions, you might want to reconsider shooting off fireworks this year or consider going to a professional fireworks display in your community. But if you choose to use fireworks, please be careful and consider the conditions.”

“Also any use of open fires at this time of the year is strongly discouraged,” Gross added.

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