



# OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

## 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY SAFETY BULLETIN

### FIREWORKS SAFETY REMINDER – CELEBRATE RESPONSIBLY THIS FOURTH OF JULY

*Star Fire Protection District & Middleton Rural Fire District*

Firework-related injuries, fatalities, and property damage continue to be a serious concern across the nation—especially during the Fourth of July holiday. As we prepare for celebrations, it's critical to prioritize safety to protect our families, neighborhoods, and first responders.

#### Key Fireworks Safety Facts

- **Injury Statistics:** Over **10,400** people were treated in U.S. emergency rooms in 2024 due to firework-related injuries.
- **Fatalities:** **11 deaths** were reported nationwide from fireworks incidents in 2024.
- **Common Injuries:** Burns, lacerations, and eye trauma are most common, with **hands, fingers, head, face, and eyes** being the most affected areas.
- **Youth at Risk:** Nearly **50% of injuries** occur in individuals **under the age of 20**, with children and teens particularly vulnerable.
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#### Fireworks Safety Tips

- **Adult Supervision Required:** Never allow children to handle fireworks. Always have a responsible adult in charge.
- **Know the Law:**
- **Aerial fireworks are prohibited** within the **City of Star, City of Middleton, City of Eagle, Ada County, Canyon County and Gem County.** .
- The use of **non-aerial common fireworks** is permitted **June 23 – July 5** within the **Star Fire Protection District.**
- **Local noise ordinances** remain in effect.
- **Use Legal Fireworks Only:** Purchase fireworks from licensed vendors and follow all label instructions carefully.
- **Protect Your Eyes:** Safety glasses are strongly recommended when lighting fireworks.
- **Light One at a Time:** Never attempt to relight a “dud” firework. Wait, then soak it in water.
- **Maintain Distance:** Step back immediately after lighting any firework.
- **Choose a Safe Area:** Use only in open, clear spaces—**keep away from homes, vehicles, dry grass, and flammable materials.**
- **Be Ready for Fire:** Have a hose, water bucket, or extinguisher on hand at all times.
- **Cool and Soak Before Disposal:** Fully douse used fireworks in water and keep trash containers away from buildings.
- **Avoid Alcohol:** Alcohol and fireworks are a dangerous mix—leave fireworks to a sober adult.
- **Attend Professional Shows:** Reduce neighborhood risk by enjoying **community-sponsored fireworks displays.**

By practicing safety and following local laws, we can celebrate Independence Day without tragedy. Let's work together to keep Star safe, festive, and fire-free.