



MCIWEST-MCB CAMP PENDLETON

2015 Critical Days of Summer Newsletter

Week 6: 28 June-5 July 2015



Firework Safety

Public fireworks shows are the safest way to enjoy fireworks (redcross.org, 2015). It is recommended that you stay at least 500 feet away from the show. On average 240 people go to the emergency room everyday with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the 4th of July.

Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. However, they are not safe in the hands of consumers. Fireworks cause thousands of burns and eye injuries each year. People can enjoy fireworks safely if they follow a few simple safety tips courtesy of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA, 2015).

Firework Safety Tips

- Never give fireworks to small children, and always follow the instructions on the packaging.
- Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.
- Make sure the person lighting fireworks always wears eye protection.
- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight "a dud."
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.
- Leave any area immediately where untrained amateurs are using fireworks.
- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.



Commanding General's Safety Hotline: (760)763-7233

- A responsible adult SHOULD supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never carry fireworks in your POCKET or shoot them into METAL or GLASS containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- FAA regulations PROHIBIT the possession and transportation of fireworks in your checked baggage or carry-on luggage.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

4th of July and Firework Statistics

- **In 2011, fireworks caused an estimated 17,800 reported fires, including 1,200 total structure fires, 400 vehicle fires, and 16,300 outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated eight reported civilian deaths, 40 civilian injuries and \$32 million in direct property damage.**
- **In 2013, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 11,400 people for fireworks related injuries; 55% of 2014 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and 38% were to the head.**
- **The risk of fireworks injury was highest for young people ages 0-4, followed by children 10-14.**
- **On Independence Day in a typical year, far more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day, and fireworks account for two out of five of those fires, more than any other cause of fires.**

Heads Up

USE CAUTION
WHEN HANDLING
FIREWORKS



Upcoming Training

(Please call Base Safety for more information, and to verify class prerequisites)

- Quarterly Safety Committee: June 30
- Ground Safety for Marines Course: 27 July-7 August
- Fire Protection and Life Safety: 18-21 August
- CPR (upon request)
- 10 OSHA Course: 11-12 August
- 30 hour OSHA class (upon request)
- Attitudinal Dynamics of Driving (Remedial Driving): Every other Friday
- Fall Stand down: 28 Oct 2015

 Check us out on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Cpenbasesafety>

Click on these links for more tips.

<http://safetycenter.navy.mil/>

<http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks/>

<http://www.redcross.org/news/article/Red-Cross-Issues-Safety-Tips-For-4th-of-July-Holiday>

<http://www.fireworkssafety.org/safety-tips/>

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