



NEWS RELEASE

miamidade.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MEDIA CONTACT:
FF Michelle Fayed
305-799-9843

FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

(MIAMI, June 30, 2015) – The Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department wants to remind the public of certain precautions that should be taken when handling fireworks this July 4th holiday. To ensure the safety of children, parents should closely supervise personal fireworks use and purchase only legal fireworks from approved vendors during this holiday weekend. It's important for parents to be present when fireworks are ignited, and make sure that the materials are lit in an open area away from homes, vehicles and any combustibles. Young children should not be allowed to handle fireworks.

When handling fireworks, remember the following safety tips:

- Light fireworks in a safe area, such as a driveway or other paved surface.
- Keep fireworks at least 25 feet away from grassy and vegetated areas.
- Never attempt to relight or alter malfunctioning fireworks. After allowing them to stand for several minutes, discard in a pail of water. Keep a hose and bucket of water nearby.
- Light one firework at a time, and move away quickly. Fireworks should never be held or thrown. Remain a safe distance away from the devices.
- If clothes catch fire, remember to STOP, DROP onto the ground, cover your face, and ROLL over and over until the fire goes out.
- Always have a bucket of water and a fire extinguisher nearby.

The Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department stresses that adults consuming alcohol while discharging fireworks are a significant contributor to fireworks mishaps and are likelier to suffer injury.

Even sparklers, which burn at over 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, can be dangerous if used improperly.

For more information, please contact MDFR's Public Affairs Bureau at (786)331-5200.

###

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department
9300 NW 41st Street, Miami, FL 33178
(786) 331-5000
www.miamidade.gov/mdfr