

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 26, 2008

Santa Rosa Fire Department

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Reminder: Fireworks are banned in Santa Rosa!

In 2004, the Santa Rosa City Council and voters approved an ordinance prohibiting the possession, storage, sale and use of *all* fireworks within the City of Santa Rosa. *Santa Rosa Municipal Code 18-44.3308.3 – Sale, use or discharge of fireworks prohibited – Although some other jurisdictions will be selling fireworks this 4th of July, citizens are prohibited from bringing them into the Santa Rosa City limits.*

The Santa Rosa Police Department and the Santa Rosa Fire Department encourage citizens to celebrate and enjoy a safe 4th of July by attending one of the many community celebrations scheduled around the County. Also, In Santa Rosa, citizens are encouraged to attend the Red, White and Boom celebration at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds:

Date: Thursday, July 3

Time: Gates open at 6:00 pm, Fireworks begin 9:30 pm

Location: Sonoma County Fair Grounds, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa

Cost: Parking \$10 per vehicle; no fee to enter Fairgrounds

More Information: [Sonoma County Fairgrounds Event Calendar](#)
(707) 545-4200

READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Did you know that **each** July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks? Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks - devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death. According to the Centers for Disease Control, in 2006, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 9,200 people for fireworks related injuries. 49% of the injuries were to the extremities and 46% were to the head. 55% of the 2006 fireworks injuries were burns, while 30% were contusions and lacerations.

According to the United States Eye Injury Registry, approximately 12,000 Americans are treated in emergency departments annually for firework-related injuries, and approximately 2,000 of those injuries involve the eye.

All fireworks have the potential to be dangerous.

- Firecrackers, bottle rockets, sparklers and Roman candles account for most firework injuries. Protect children. Forty percent of those injured last year were under the age of 14, and many of them were bystanders.
- 30% of the injuries that occurred last year involved burns to hands, wrists and arms, and 20% of injuries were to the eyes.
- 10% of children injured by fireworks suffer permanent damage, such as the loss of an eye, a finger or a hand. Sparklers burn as hot as 2,000 degrees, hot enough to melt gold. For children under the age of five, sparklers account for three-quarters of all fireworks injuries.

http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/spotlite/firework_spot.htm

General rules of thumb for handling fireworks incidents include:

Approach fireworks, or any other explosive device with care, too many unknowns like age, moisture levels, and amount of explosive material make these substances and devices dangerous and unpredictable;

- Never approach a firework after it has been lit, even if it appears to have gone out. It is likely to still be excessively hot and it may explode unexpectedly;
- If an injury occurs, seek immediate medical attention from experts who specialize in treating burns and other traumatic injuries.

Your Fire Department thanks you for keeping potential fire hazards to a minimum by not buying or participating in the firing of illegal fireworks in our community!