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NEWS RELEASE

Release Date: July 1, 2022
Contact: Fire Chief John Dolan

Leave Fireworks to the Professionals

The Mount Prospect Fire Department would like to remind all residents that the Village of Mount Prospect prohibits all types of fireworks, including sparklers. The Village of Mount Prospect Fire Prevention Code prohibits the use, purchase, and possession of Fireworks. Fines for use of fireworks can range from **\$500 to \$2,500** per incident.

All fireworks are dangerous and can result in burns, hearing loss, and many other serious injuries. In addition, fireworks have led to a number of fires that have caused significant property damage. Thousands of people, mostly children, are seriously injured every single year due to illegal fireworks use, one-third of these result in permanent eye damage. According to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, in 2020 there were more than 15,600 people treated for fireworks-related injuries, with 44% of these injuries being burns. In 2018, according to the National Fire Protection Association, fireworks started an estimated 19,500 fires. Contrary to popular belief, sparklers are not a safe alternative as they can reach temperatures of up to 1800°F. Sparklers remain hot even after they are extinguished potentially causing burns. Fireworks should only be used by professionals with proper permits and training.

The Mount Prospect Fire Chief, John Dolan said, "It is important that we all stay safe as a community. Leave the fireworks to the professionals so that you and your family are safe during the Fourth of July festivities. Firework injuries and home fires caused by illegal fireworks are always a concern for the Fire Department, especially during this time of the year. As a Department, we wish you a happy and safe Fourth of July celebration."

Instead of fireworks, you can celebrate the holiday safely by using glow sticks, glow-in-the-dark flashlights, and party poppers. The Mount Prospect Fire Department wishes you a safe Fourth of July celebration – for any questions regarding fireworks or any other fire safety questions please contact the Mount Prospect Fire Department at 847-818-5253.

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