



Village of Mount Prospect **Press Release**

Firework Safety Reminders

DATE: June 29, 2023

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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 the 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, and one-third of these result in permanent eye damage.

According to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, in 2021 there were more than 15,000 people treated in emergency rooms across the country for fireworks-related injuries, with 32% 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.

According to Mount Prospect Fire Chief John Dolan, "As Independence Day approaches, and our community begins to celebrate July 4th, it is important that we all stay safe by leaving the fireworks to professionals. I want to remind all of our residents and visitors that fireworks are dangerous. The best way to prevent firework injuries is to avoid using them yourself. Enjoy community events where you can safely celebrate July 4th with your families and friends."

Instead of fireworks, you can celebrate the holiday safely by using glow sticks, flashlights, glow-in-the-dark toys 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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