



# Village of Fox Crossing Fire Department

Public Education Division

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## Fireworks Safety

The use of backyard fireworks has doubled since 2000 to 255 million pounds nationwide.

Just because some fireworks are legal to buy doesn't mean they are safe to use—or legal to use! As a matter of fact, in the Town of Menasha, all types of fireworks are illegal! This includes, but is not limited to: sparklers, cannons, firecrackers, skyrockets, roman candles, and toy pistols. (You can see a complete list in the [Village of Fox Crossing Municipal Ordinance 5.18\(1\)\(a\)](#).)

Fireworks are always popular—especially for kids! And, even more so, they can quickly become a nightmare due to their unpredictability—quite often turning a celebration into a painful memory of injuries and even possibly death!

Most fireworks-related injuries can be avoided! Many occur when fireworks are being misused.

Leave fireworks to the professionals!

### Fireworks-Life Safety Tips

- ✓ Obey the local laws of your area. Keep fireworks, lighters, and matches away from children. (Some may look like candy).
- ✓ Never use fireworks under the influence of alcohol.
- ✓ Never smoke when using fireworks.
- ✓ Never make your own fireworks.
- ✓ Only buy from reliable, licensed dealers
- ✓ Never look into a tube to see if a firework is lit.
- ✓ Never hold a firework item in your hand.
- ✓ Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- ✓ Tie your hair back when using fireworks.

#### Did you know?

- ✓ Since 1976, when federal standards were set for consumer fireworks/sparklers, injuries have decreased by 88%.
- ✓ Over the past 10 years, 30-33% of injuries associated with fireworks have typically been caused by illegal explosives or homemade fireworks.
- ✓ All fireworks must be clearly labeled with the name and address of the manufacturer as well as cautionary information and safety instructions.
- ✓ Though banned since 1966, M-80's and M-100's continue to account for one third of all 4<sup>th</sup> of July injuries.
- ✓ Not all fireworks sold in assortment packages are legal.
- ✓ Before using any fireworks, be sure they are legal.
- ✓ Remember, ignorance is not a defense to the law.

\*\*\*All information shown on this page is from the National Fire Safety Council Inc. Fireworks Safety brochure. ©MMIX

***Public Education: Our First Line of Defense!***