



Public Information Office

06-28-2017

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## JOINT AGENCY PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

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1540 Hrs.

For Immediate Release PST

Jonathan Baxter 415 – 558-3404 (d)

415 – 660-0545 (c)

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**What:** San Francisco Fire Department and San Francisco Department of Emergency Management Joint Fireworks Safety Press Conference

**When:** Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 10:00 A.M

**Where:** SFFD Fire Station 4, 449 Mission Rock @ 3<sup>rd</sup> Street San Francisco, CA 94158

**Who:** San Francisco Fire Department, Lt. Jonathan Baxter  
SF Department of Emergency Management, 9-1-1  
Operations Manager, Cecile Soto

### **San Francisco Public Safety Topics:**

As the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebratory events are upon us, the San Francisco Fire Department is reminding all residents and visitors that San Francisco has zero tolerance for the use and sale of all fireworks.

#### SOME FACTS:

- Each year more than 12,000 fireworks-related injuries, half of them children, are treated in hospital emergency rooms.
- More than 25% of the children injured by fireworks are innocent bystanders.
- Something as simple as a sparkler burns at temperatures of up to 1,800 degrees! That's hot enough to melt gold.
- Firework accidents cause millions in property loss each year.
- **MUNICIPAL CODE SEC. 1290. DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS PROHIBITED.**  
"No person or persons, firm, company, corporation or association shall fire or discharge any fireworks of any kind or description within the limits of the City and County of San Francisco. Provided, however, that public displays of fireworks may be given with the joint written consent of the Fire Marshal and the Chief of Police".

Possession of fireworks such as sky rockets, bottle rockets, roman candles, aerial shells, firecrackers and other types that explode, go into the air, or move on the ground in an uncontrollable manner can lead to a possible fine or jail time in the county jail. Even “Safe and Sane” Fireworks, such as firecrackers and sparklers, are illegal.

The San Francisco Department of Emergency Management and Fire Department strongly urge San Franciscans to keep themselves and their neighborhoods safe this year. “If you see something, say something”. Unlawful use of fireworks can be reported to the non-emergency dispatch line at: 415-553-0123.

San Francisco has an official free public fireworks display starting at 9:30 PM. The fireworks will be launched from barges near Pier 39 and Aquatic Park. Large crowds are expected to view the show along the waterfront and use of public transportation is encouraged.

San Francisco residents and visitors are asked to do their part to prevent fires caused by fireworks.

For safety information and fun events in San Francisco, please check the links provided:

<http://www.sftourismtips.com/fourth-of-july-san-francisco.html>

<http://sf.funcheap.com/san-francisco-4th-july-fireworks-show/>

<http://m.kidshealth.org/en/parents/fireworks.html?WT.ac=>

<http://www.nsc.org/learn/safety-knowledge/Pages/news-and-resources-fireworks-safety.aspx>

<http://www.nsc.org/learn/safety-knowledge/Pages/news-and-resources-fireworks-safety.aspx>

[http://www.calfire.ca.gov/communications/downloads/fact\\_sheets/4thofjuly.pdf](http://www.calfire.ca.gov/communications/downloads/fact_sheets/4thofjuly.pdf)



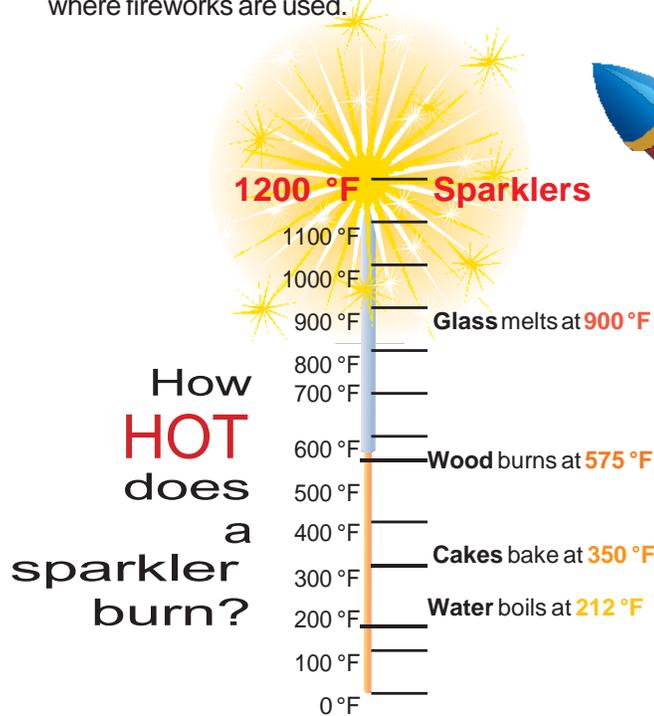
Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. However, they are not safe in the hands of consumers. Fireworks cause thousands of burns and eye injuries each year. People can enjoy fireworks safely if they follow a few simple safety tips:

**BE CAREFUL!**

- >>> Be safe. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.
- >>> Do not use consumer fireworks.
- >>> Keep a close eye on children at events where fireworks are used.

## Consumer fireworks

**NFPA is opposed to consumer use of fireworks.** This includes sparklers and firecrackers. Even sparklers burn hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



## FACTS

- ! Fireworks cause an average of almost 20,000 reported fires per year.
- ! In 2013, sparklers caused 41% of fireworks injuries.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division | 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169