

Fireworks Safety



Fireworks Injuries

Severe injuries related to fireworks increased 21 percent in 2020 from 2019.

The parts of the body most often injured are hands and fingers, the head, face and ears are the second most injured body parts. Eye injuries are third.

- Arms (12%)
- Eyes (15%)
- Hands and fingers (30%)
- Head, face, and ears (22%)
- Legs (13%)

Causes of death from fireworks in 2020 included:

- Anoxic-ischemic encephalopathy due to a face, neck, and chest blast injury
- Blood loss from damage to the femoral artery
- Complications of blunt head trauma
- Exsanguination
- Thermal and inhalation injuries



People & Pets

Fireworks are extremely dangerous. Kids should never ignite a firework! They can cause severe burns, blindness and even death. It is best for families to attend professional community fireworks displays rather than using fireworks at home.

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks, including sparklers. **Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit—hot enough to melt some metals.**
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy, in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move away from the fireworks device quickly.
- Never try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak them with water, and throw them away.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse.
- Never point or throw fireworks (including sparklers) at anyone.
- Do not keep hold of fireworks after lighting.



Keep your pet safely away from fireworks. Pets are more sensitive to loud noises, flashing lights and strong smells. When there are fireworks, it's best to leave your pets safely indoors, preferably with a radio or TV turned on to soften jarring noises.

Pets become frightened and many of them run away and get lost.

