



ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY FIREWORKS FACT SHEET 2023



Know the Law:

Even if fireworks are legal in your area, they pose a huge risk to life and property. Know the risks, know the law, and practice firework safety.

- Safe and Sane fireworks are legal in: Anaheim, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Los Alamitos, Santa Ana, Stanton, Villa Park, and Westminster. In all other Orange County cities, *all* fireworks are illegal.
- Fireworks are prohibited:
 - At all State and County Parks
 - In County Harbors
 - In all State, County, and City Beaches
 - in Unincorporated Orange County
 - in the Cleveland National Forest
- Use of illegal fireworks may result in a fine up to \$50,000, as well as up to one year in jail. (CAL FIRE 2019)
- If you start a fire (even accidentally) from fireworks, you will be held liable for the fire suppression costs and property damage costs. (CAL FIRE, 2020)
- Parents are liable for any damage or injuries caused by their children using fireworks. (CA FIRE, 2019)

In Orange County, fireworks pose a severe fire risk, as well as a health and safety risk to kids and adults:

- Fireworks started an estimated 12,264 fires in 2021, including 2,082 structure fires, 316 vehicle fires, and 9,866 outside and other fires. These fires caused 29 civilian injuries and \$59 million in direct property damages. (NFPA, 2021)
- 59% of fires started by fireworks turned into brush, grass, or forest fires. (NFPA, 2020)
- Hand-held sparklers burn at 1200 degrees. Wood and vegetation ignite at 356 degrees. (FEMA, 2020)

Risk of Death / Injury:

- In 2021, 9 individuals died due to fireworks-related incidents. (CPSC 2021)
- In 2021, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 11,500 people for fireworks related injuries. Over half of those injuries were to the extremities and 35% were to the eye or other parts of the head. (NFPA, 2021)
- Children younger than 15 years of age accounted for almost one quarter (23%) of the estimated 2021 injuries. (CPSC, 2021)
- Burns accounted for 32 percent of the emergency department fireworks-related injuries in 2021. (CPSC, 2021)
- Young adults aged 20-24 had the highest estimated rate of emergency department-treated, fireworks-related injuries in 2021. (CPSC, 2021)
- Sparklers account for roughly 25% of emergency room fireworks injuries. (CPSC, 2022)

Leave fireworks to the professionals. Many Orange County cities and communities hold professional fireworks displays on the 4th of July.



For more information call (714) 573-6200 or visit ocfa.org