



# ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY FIREWORKS FACT SHEET 2024



## 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 start an average of 18,000 fires, including 1,300 structure fires, and 300 vehicle fires. (American Red Cross, 2023)
- 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 2022, 11 individuals died due to fireworks-related incidents. (CPSC 2022)
- In 2022, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 10,200 people for fireworks related injuries. (NFPA, 2022)
- Children younger than 15 years of age accounted for over one quarter (28%) of the estimated 2022 injuries. (CPSC, 2022)
- Burns accounted for 38% of the emergency department fireworks-related injuries in 2022. (CPSC, 2022)
- Adults aged 25 to 44 had the highest estimated rate of emergency department-treated, fireworks-related injuries in 2021. (CPSC, 2022)
- Sparklers and firecrackers account for roughly 20% of emergency room fireworks injuries. (CPSC, 2022)

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



For more information call (714) 573-6200 or visit [ocfa.org](http://ocfa.org)