

FORT MYERS BEACH FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT
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For Immediate Release

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Fireworks and the Fourth

Fort Myers Beach, FL – Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District (FMBFCD) would like to remind residents and visitors as Independence Day celebrations approach, to practice extreme caution in regards to consumer fireworks. According to the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA), each July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks - devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death. FMBFCD has some tips to keep everyone safe on the Fourth:

- **The safest way to enjoy fireworks is at a public fireworks display that is put on by trained professionals. These fireworks are usually also free of charge.**
- **If you are set on doing your own fireworks, make sure a responsible adult is present at all times and in charge of lighting all sparklers and fireworks.**
- **Never use illegal fireworks. Anything that propels itself through the air, detonates or explodes, or contains more than 100 grams of the chemical compound that**

produces sparks, is illegal. If you are unsure, just make sure you purchase your fireworks from a vendor that has an official permit to sell fireworks.

- **Read and follow all instructions on the label and keep all spectators a safe distance back from the ignition spot.**
- **Use outdoors only, away from houses, vehicles, and trees and other flammable objects. Choose a smooth, hard surface, clear of dry grass and brush to light all fireworks and sparklers.**
- **Never attempt to re-ignite “duds” or fireworks that didn’t work the first time.**
- **Keep a hose or water bucket nearby at all times.**

For more information contact the Public Information Officer, Ramon Looby.

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