

## Fireworks and Sparklers

The National Council on Fireworks Safety urges consumers to be “fireworks smart” – before, during, and after their fireworks display.

**Before:** Choose an open area away from spectators, homes, buildings, and dry vegetation. Use a garden hose to wet down the area before firing.

**During:** As each device burns out, soak it using a hose or bucket of water.

**After:** Place all used items in a covered, fireproof container and leave it outside and away from homes and buildings.

### General Fireworks Safety Tips:

- \* Never allow young children to handle fireworks.
- \* Older children should use fireworks only under close adult supervision.
- \* Light fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from onlookers, houses and flammable materials.
- \* Light one device at a time; maintain a safe distance after lighting.
- \* Do not allow any running or horseplay while fireworks are being used.
- \* Never ignite devices in a container.
- \* Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks; douse and soak them with water and discard them safely.
- \* Keep a bucket of water and hose nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire.

### Special Safety Tips for Sparklers:

- \* Children under the age of 12 should not use sparklers without very close adult supervision.
- \* Always remain standing while using sparklers.
- \* Never hold a child in your arms while using sparklers.
- \* Never hold or light more than one sparkler at a time.
- \* Sparklers and bare feet can be a painful combination. Always wear closed-toe shoes when using sparklers.
- \* Sparkler wire and stick remain hot long after the flame has gone out. Be sure to drop the spent sparklers directly into a bucket of water.
- \* Never hand a lighted sparkler to another person. Give them the unlit sparkler and then light it.
- \* Always stand at least 6 feet from another person while using sparklers.
- \* Never throw sparklers.
- \* Show children how to hold sparklers away from their body and at arm's length.
- \* Teach children not to wave sparklers, especially wooden stick sparklers, or run while holding sparklers.

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