



LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

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Fireworks Safety

Fireworks Facts:

Each July 4th, 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.

Fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires per year, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and 16,900 outside and other fires.

In 2015, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 11,900 people for fireworks related injuries; 51% of those injuries were to the extremities and 41% were to the head.

Local Statistics:

In 2016, VFD responded to 49 outside fires that were responsible for \$700 worth of damages.



Safety Tips:

- Be safe. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.
- Do not use consumer fireworks.
- Keep a close eye on kids at events where fireworks are used.

Always Remember

Even sparklers burn hot enough to cause third-degree burns because many burn at temperatures of 1200 degrees.

Fireworks are dangerous and unpredictable, especially in the hands of amateurs.

Males account for 74% of all firework injuries that are reported.

Fireworks should only be used outdoors.

Never relight a dud firework.

National Fire Protection Association

<http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/wildfire-and-seasonal-fires/fireworks>

Photo courtesy of piquaoh.org

If possible, attend a professional fireworks event rather than hosting your own.

Did you know:

It is only legal to use fireworks between 10 AM and 9 PM on most nights. On New Year's Eve the cutoff time is 1 AM and the cutoff time on Fourth of July is midnight?

Fireworks can't legally be set off by anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs?

Fireworks may not be fired on roads or highways, or within 100 yards of a hospital, nursing home or prison?

Fireworks may not be used in a park, historic site, recreational area or other property owned by the city or county unless special permission has been granted?

Did you know that it is a good idea to have a bucket of water or a water hose nearby any-time you use fireworks?

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer, please contact Tangela Rowe at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email valdostafire@valdostacity.com

Solve The Fire Wuzzles

WUZZLES are word puzzles consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, sayings, etc.

For example, the solution to NOON GOOD is "Good afternoon," and LINE READ LINE is "Read between the lines."



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VFD

Fire Safety Quiz

1. Teens can be trusted to use fireworks without the presence of an adult.
 - A. True
 - B. False
2. Children ages ____ are more than twice as likely to be injured by fireworks than any other age group.
 - A. 2-6
 - B. 3-7
 - C. 5-9
 - D. 13-18

Correct Answers: 1. B, 2. C



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief