



Greenville Fire Department

July

RUSSELL L. THOMPSON, FIRE CHIEF

Public Safety Announcement

Fireworks

The Greenville Fire Department encourages our citizens to be aware of the inherent dangers of fireworks during this Fourth of July holiday. In an effort to reduce the number of reported fireworks-related injuries, we request you attend public fireworks displays hosted by municipalities and licensed exhibitors this July 4th.

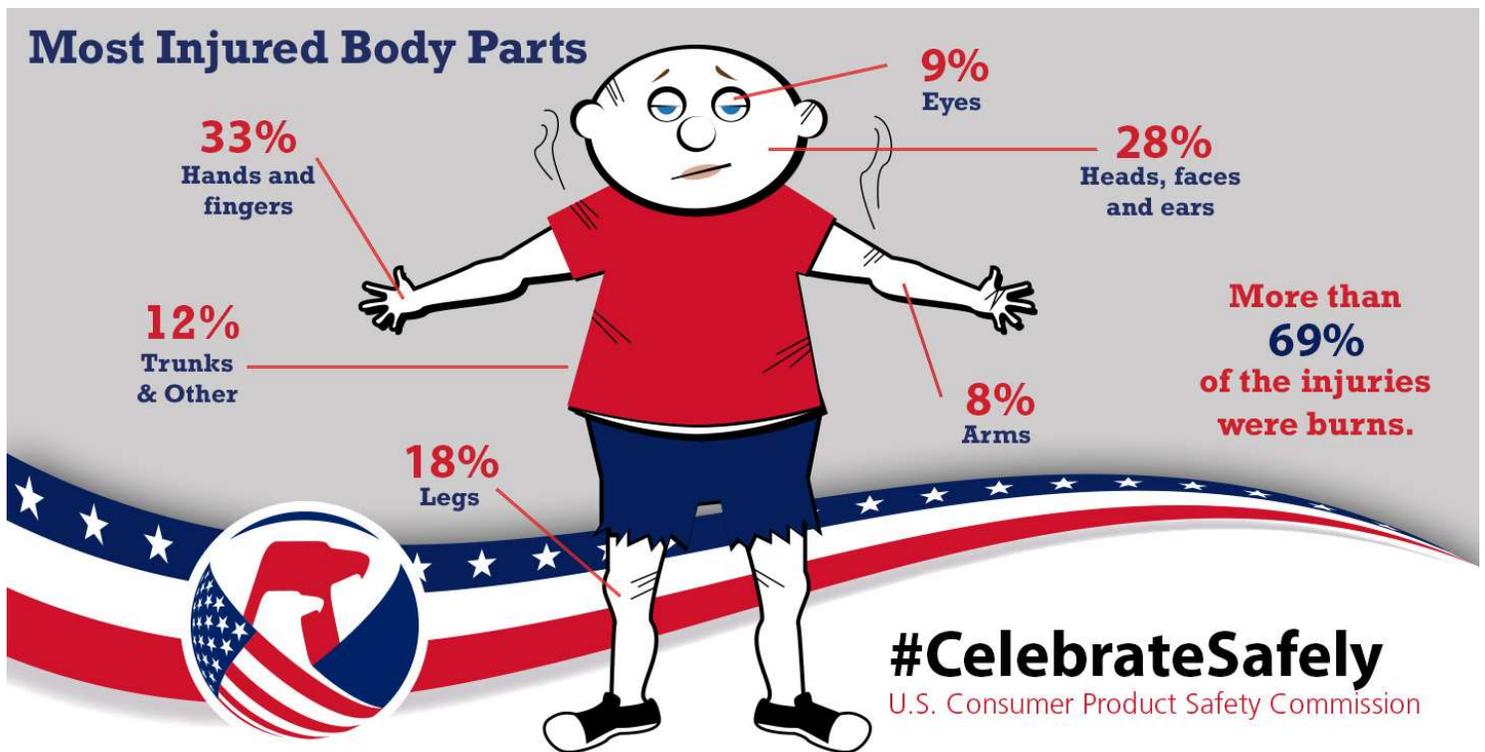


As a reminder, the only fireworks that can be legally discharged in Ohio are trick and novelty devices. These include items that smoke, sparkle, snap, and snake. For those who choose to have their own display of fireworks, the Greenville Fire Department would like to offer these safety tips:

only fireworks that purchased and novelty devices. sparkle, snap, and snake. For

- **Observe** local laws. Again, the only types permitted by law in the State of Ohio (without special licensing) are “trick and novelty” fireworks; examples include sparklers, snaps, glow snakes, and smoke bombs. Ohio Revised Code § 3743 explicitly states that all other types are prohibited, with the exception of public fireworks displays by licensed contractors. While they can be purchased by anyone over the age of 18, popular types of “consumer fireworks” such as bottle rockets, firecrackers, roman candles, and fountains must be taken out of the State.
- **Never** allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- **Always** have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don’t realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot enough to melt some metals.

- **Choose** a safe location. Make sure you give yourself enough room away from buildings, vehicles, and flammable materials.
- **Never** place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- **Never** try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- **Never** point or throw fireworks at another person.
- **Light** fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- **Never** carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- **Keep** a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap. After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- **If** injured or burned, seek medical attention if necessary or call 911.



Fireworks are synonymous with our celebration of Independence Day. Yet, the thrill of fireworks can also bring pain. On average, 250 people go the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday (U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission). The Greenville Fire Department hopes you enjoy a great and safe 4th of July celebration.

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