



The Danville Fire Department would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Independence Day.

The Fourth of July often is associated with a great number of fires and burn injuries due to fireworks. According to national statistics, more than 10,000 citizens are injured each year by the misuse of common and illegally manufactured fireworks. These injuries result in millions of dollars in medical and legal expenses, and untold suffering. The injuries include burns and the loss of fingers, limbs, vision or hearing; most injuries leave permanent scarring. The overwhelming majority of persons injured are younger than 20 years old. These are usually burns to the hands and eyes causing vision impairment and disfiguring scars. Sparklers are the biggest danger to children. A tip temperature at the end of the sparkler reaches 1800 degrees Fahrenheit and can easily cause a burn.

Fireworks include devices that make a visible or audible effect when set off. The City of Danville ordinance regarding fireworks specifically outlaws possession and use of sparklers, skyrockets and firecrackers. The only items allowed under the City of Danville fireworks ordinance, unless the user has a permit from the Danville Fire Department, are paper caps used in toy cap pistols, party poppers, and "snap and pops".



Fireworks can cause fires in dry brush and grass, and also cause fires that destroy or damage homes. Fires are caused by careless handling of fireworks in areas exposed to sparks or live fireworks. Most burn injuries from fireworks involve children.

The City of Danville prohibits the sale or use of any fireworks. Only those people with special licenses are allowed controlled fireworks displays. They take extensive precautions to ensure a safe, yet exciting show. Leave fireworks to the professionals.



Restrictions on fireworks are for a good cause. No matter how small or large fireworks may be, it is a potential fire starter. But it is still possible to celebrate and enjoy the holiday. Families can consult the newspaper or local activity calendar and attend one of several approved, licensed fireworks displays in Danville.



If grilling for family gatherings during the holiday, please remember the following:

- No charcoal cooker, deep fryer or grill shall be used on balconies of apartments or condominiums unless the balcony is made completely of non-combustible construction or is equipped with a sprinkler system.
- Grills should be placed far enough away from any home, structure or combustibles so an adequate amount of air can circulate. A minimum of 15 feet is recommended.



- Charcoal must be kept dry. Wet charcoal can spontaneously ignite.
 - Spare propane bottles should be stored outside away from the home—A back-yard shed is a good place.
 - Keep children away from the grill. Grills continue to give off heat long after the cooking has stopped.
 - Dispose of grill ashes in a safe fashion. Never place hot ashes in paper or plastic bags or containers. Only use metal containers for hot ashes.
 - Keep “grill” type lighters out of children’s reach at all times. These lighters are propane fueled and are NOT child proof.
 - Check grill hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes, and leaks and make sure there are no sharp bends in the hose or tubing.
- Never store or use flammable liquids, such as gasoline, near the grill.
 - Never store filled propane containers in a hot car or a car trunk.
 - Never use grills inside homes, vehicles, tents, or campers—even if ventilation is provided.
 - Clean grills thoroughly before and after use to avoid grease buildup.
 - Use proper grilling utensils and fire retardant mitts.
 - Never put lighter fluid directly on flames or on hot or warm coals
 - Never wear loose clothing while grilling.
 - Keep a multi-purpose ABC fire extinguisher, garden hose and bucket of water or sand nearby for extinguishment purposes.