

## Firework Safety

Fireworks are a fun and exciting way to celebrate America's birthday. The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to leave them up to professionals and watch public displays. If you choose to light your own, however, follow these tips to ensure a safe and injury-free night.

### Follow the law.

- Only use consumer fireworks that are permitted in your area on the dates and during the times that are allowed.

### Read the labels.

- Make sure you understand all directions and warnings on each firework before use.

### Handle with care.

- Never carry fireworks in your pocket, and avoid dropping them.

### Have water nearby.

- A hose is the best water source. Assign someone to be the "fireman" in case of an emergency.

### Wear eye protection.

- Safety glasses will help protect your eyes from possible injury.

### Do not light inside.

- Only use fireworks outdoors in a clear, open area. Do not light them around buildings, vehicles, shrubbery, or anything that can easily catch fire.

### Only light one firework at a time.

- Lighting more than one at once creates an even more dangerous setting and can lead to an uncontrollable situation.

### Keep your distance when lighting.

- Place yourself as far away from the firework as possible and quickly get away once lit.

### Never re-light a dud.

- This can be very dangerous. If a firework doesn't function, wait 20 minutes and immerse it in water.

### Dispose of properly.

- Soak used fireworks in water before disposing of them in the trash.

### Special reminder:

- Children are particularly curious and especially susceptible to injury around fireworks. Remember to always supervise your children and never let them handle, play with, or light fireworks.



Check out our course list online for a variety of safety trainings provided across the state at

[www.ndsc.org](http://www.ndsc.org)

*The North Dakota Safety Council is a private non-profit organization supported through grants, donations, memberships and training.*

