

Boone County Fire District Offers Safety Tips for Fireworks

Division Chief Gale Blomenkamp - Tuesday, June 29, 2010

With the Fourth of July Celebration rapidly approaching and fireworks stands opening throughout Boone County, we would like to offer our customers some safety tips on fireworks to insure a safe and happy Fourth of July celebration.

- * Always read and follow label directions
- * Have an adult supervise all fireworks activities
- * Buy from reliable sources
- * Ignite outdoors, away from buildings and vehicles
- * Keep a bucket of water handy
- * Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks
- * Light fireworks one at a time
- * Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks
- * Store fireworks in a cool, dry place
- * Never throw fireworks at another person
- * Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers
- * Eye protection should always be worn by the person shooting fireworks
- * No part of the shooter's body should be over the firework
- * Always shoot fireworks vertically. Never horizontally

The Consumer Product Safety Commission requires that legal fireworks show the name of the item, the name of the manufacturer or distributor and easy-to-read cautionary labeling and instructions for proper use. Illegal devices will usually be unlabeled, will not bear a caution statement and will not list the manufacturer's name. "Illegal fireworks are extremely dangerous and can cause serious injuries. If you find or know of anyone selling illegal fireworks we ask you to contact your local police department immediately", said Division Chief Gale Blomenkamp.

The Boone County Fire Protection District wishes everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July.