

PARENT HEALTH BULLETIN

JULY 2009

Hello Wild Cub and Wild Cat Parents,

As always, I would like to thank you for allowing your children to keep sending me emails.

July is a time for warm weather, cookouts, family reunions, and celebrating the Fourth of July. Many of you may plan on using fireworks to make your celebration complete. Before your family celebrates, make sure all of you know firework safety.

Wally Cat 



THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: FIREWORK SAFETY

Prevent injuries this July 4th

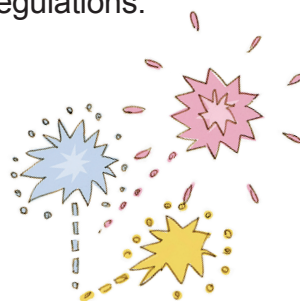
If not handled properly, fireworks can be extremely dangerous and can cause burn and eye injuries to children and adults. Only Class "C" common fireworks are allowed in the state of Kentucky. The Division of Fire Prevention and Kentucky Law 227.702 state the following regulations:

The following fireworks **ARE** allowed:

- Ground and hand-held sparkling devices
 - ▶ Dipped stick sparklers
 - ▶ Cylindrical and cone fountains
 - ▶ Illuminating torches
 - ▶ Wheels
 - ▶ Ground spinners
- Smoke
- Novelties
- Trick noisemakers

The following fireworks **are NOT** allowed:

- Fireworks that have any:
 - ▶ Wings
 - ▶ Fins
 - ▶ Mechanisms that causes a device to fly



Continued on the back 

Supervise children around fireworks at all times.

Fireworks that are not allowed (Continued):

- Fireworks that are labeled with a cautionary warning that includes in its description any of the following terms:
 - ▶ Explosive
 - ▶ Firecracker
 - ▶ Emits flaming pellets
 - ▶ Report
 - ▶ Flaming Balls
 - ▶ Rocket

Fireworks Safety Tips

- Buy only legal fireworks (see list above): Legal fireworks will have a label with the manufacturer's name and product directions.
- Children should never play with fireworks: Even sparklers can be dangerous. Sparklers can reach 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit—hot enough to melt gold.

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- Sparklers should only be handled by children older than 12 with adult supervision: Make sure to light fireworks outside and away from face, clothing, and hair.
- Never try to make your own fireworks.
- Never smoke around fireworks.
- Never point or throw fireworks at others. Fireworks have been known to backfire or shoot in the wrong direction.

- Keep all fireworks away from brush, leaves, flammable substances, and homes.
- Light only one firework at a time and NEVER re-light a dud (a firework that did not work the first time).
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket and don't pick up or allow children to pick up pieces of fireworks. Some may still be lit and can suddenly explode
- Always keep a bucket of water nearby and soak all fireworks at least 10 minutes before throwing them in the trash can.
- In the event your child is injured by fireworks, take them immediately to the nearest medical treatment facility.
- If an eye injury occurs, do not rub or touch the eye. This may cause even more damage.
- If an eye injury occurs, do not flush the eye with water



or try to put ointment on it. Cut out the bottom of a paper cup, place it around the eye and seek immediate medical attention.

- If a burn occurs, remove clothing from the burned area and run cool, not cold water on the site (do not use ice). Seek medical attention immediately.
- Be mindful of your pets. Animals are extremely sensitive to loud noises and can be easily frightened or stressed by fireworks.
- Keeping your pet indoors reduces the likelihood that they will be injured or get loose and run away.
- Supervise children around fireworks at all times.
- Take the night off and let someone else do the work. Professional firework shows put on by licensed professionals offer a safe, fun, and free alternative for families to enjoy a night of fireworks.

SOURCES:

- http://kidshealth.org/parent/firstaid_safe/outdoor/fireworks.html
- http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/holiday-seasonal/summer.shtm
- <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/tfrs/v5i4.pdf>
- http://pediatrics.about.com/od/safety/a/0607_fireworks.htm
- http://firstaid.about.com/od/injuriesathome/ht/06_fireworks.htm
- <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/krs/227-00/702.pdf>

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