

Fireworks Awareness Week
Social Media Text
#fireworks #celebratesafely

- Prevent Blindness urges the public to keep the 4th of July safe and happy by leaving the fireworks to the professionals!
<https://www.preventblindness.org/fireworks>
- Did you know that fireworks devices were involved in an estimated 7,300 injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments around the 4th of July holiday in 2019? <https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/2019-Fireworks-Annual-Report.pdf>
- According to a survey from the @AmericanAcademyofOphthalmology, only 10% of respondents wear eye protection when using fireworks.
<https://www.aao.org/newsroom/polls-and-surveys/fireworks>
- According to a survey from the @AmericanAcademyofOphthalmology, 33% of respondents know someone injured by fireworks or have been injured by fireworks themselves. <https://www.aao.org/newsroom/polls-and-surveys/fireworks>
- Children 0 to 4 years of age had the highest estimated rate of emergency department-treated, fireworks-related injuries in 2019. Learn more at: <https://www.preventblindness.org/fireworks>
- Did you know that the parts of the body most often injured by fireworks were hands and fingers (an estimated 30%); legs (an estimated 23%); eyes (an estimated 15%); head, face, and ears (an estimated 15%); and arms (an estimated 10%). <https://www.preventblindness.org/fireworks>
- According to the @USCPSC, 58% of the emergency department-treated injuries were burns. Burns were the most common injury to hands, fingers and arms. Yet, contusions and lacerations were the most frequent injuries to eyes, which included foreign bodies in the eye. <https://www.preventblindness.org/fireworks>
- According to the @USCPSC, on average, 180 people go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday. <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks>
- A new study from @JAMA Ophthalmology states that ocular burns are the most frequent type of eye injury from fireworks, and bottle rockets were a common firework type that disproportionately caused serious ocular injury, including ruptured globe. <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamaophthalmology/article-abstract/2763807>
- Nearly 2000 firework-related ocular injuries occurred per year between 1999 and 2017, according to the “Assessment of Firework-Related Ocular Injury in the US” study, published in JAMA Ophthalmology.
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamaophthalmology/article-abstract/2763807>

From AAO (Facebook- @AcademyEyeSmart & @AmericanAcademyofOphthalmology, Twitter- @AcademyEyeSmart & @aao_opth)

- Fire Captain Jay Northup suffered a severe injuries when a mortar exploded in his face. Read Jay's story: <https://www.aao.org/eye-health/patient-stories-detail/jay-firefighter-fireworks-injury>
- Read Stacy's story, a woman whose vision was severely impacted from a fireworks injury. <https://www.aao.org/eye-health/patient-stories-detail/stacy-eye-injury-fireworks>
- Javonte lost a hand and an eye to a fireworks injury. Read his story at: <https://www.aao.org/eye-health/news/firework-blinds-teenager-severs-hand>
- Jameson was only 16 years old when he was blinded in one eye by a fireworks accident. <https://www.aao.org/eye-health/news/teen-nearly-loses-vision-to-fireworks>
- Check out this video from the @American Academy of Ophthalmology, "Fireworks: The Blinding Truth" <https://youtu.be/Blu1jFLf5Qg>

National Fire Protection Association (Facebook- @theNFPA, Twitter- @NFPA)

- A three-year old boy, Michael Shannon, was killed when a legal consumer firework struck him in the head during a July Fourth family celebration. Michael's parents and sister talk about their memories of Michael, the pain they've endured in the years since his death, and their hope that parents will understand the danger of consumer fireworks. https://youtu.be/C2Pfil_2a3l
- Fireworks started an estimated 19,500 fires in 2018, including 1,900 structure fires, 500 vehicle fires, and 17,100 outside and other fires. These fires caused five deaths, 46 civilian injuries, and \$105 million in direct property damage. <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Fireworks>
- Patrick and Marci Foy, and their daughter, Olivia, were injured while attending a family celebration, and were among more than a dozen people hurt. Hear them tell their story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIAB-NuZYfI>

Tips for fireworks alternatives:

- Here's a tasty idea to celebrate Independence Day safely: Decorate treats using white frosting, blueberries and raspberries or strawberries.

- Celebrate safely by making paper rockets by using paper towel rolls, paint or markers, streamers and child-safe glue. Make pinwheels or wind socks with an Independence Day theme.
- Decorate your front door by creating a patriotic wreath. Paste red, white and blue stars in a circle hang it from a door or window.
- Paint flower pots in red, white and blue and plant news seeds or festive flowers.
- Hold your own Independence Day family parade! Decorate bicycles, scooters and wagons in red, white, and blue.
- Hang decorative string lights and have a dance party with patriotic music.
- Create a fun and safe 4th of July memory: Design and decorate t-shirts and hats using glow in the dark paints. Add puffy paints and glitter to make them sparkle.
- After the sun goes down, wrap flashlights in colored cellophane to provide fun shades of light.
- Purchase non-toxic glow-sticks, ropes and jewelry that can safely light the night for kids.
- Here's a creative way to celebrate safely: create a bald eagle out of paper using a child's handprints! <https://www.simpleeverydaymom.com/handprint-eagle-craft-for-kids/>