

# Handle Fireworks Safely

---



**Fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires yearly, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and nearly 17,000 other fires.**

Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades, and fireworks. The National Safety Council advises everyone to enjoy fireworks at public displays conducted by professionals and not to use any fireworks at home. They may be legal, but they are not safe.

In 2017, eight people died, and over 12,000 were injured badly enough to require medical treatment after fireworks-related incidents. Of these, 50% of the injuries were to children and young adults under age 20.

Over two-thirds (67%) of injuries occurred from June 16 to July 16. And while most of these incidents were due to amateurs attempting to use professional-grade, homemade, or other illegal fireworks or explosives, an estimated 1,200 injuries were from less powerful devices like small firecrackers and sparklers.

Additionally, fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires yearly, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and nearly 17,000 other fires.