

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Fireworks Safety

Be safe this Fourth of July holiday and summer season

The Oneida County Health Department wants to remind of the importance of staying safe if using fireworks.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reported that there were eight fireworks-related deaths in 2017, and another 12,900 emergency room visits as a result of injuries sustained from fireworks. Sparklers accounted for many of these injuries. 53 percent of those injuries were burns.

The CPSC regularly works with the fireworks industry and regulations of many products to ensure safety. With these safety measures, fireworks are still very dangerous. The CPSC encourages consumers to:

- Never use or make professional-grade fireworks.
- Do not buy or use fireworks that are packaged in brown paper. This is often a sign that they were made for a professional display and not consumer use.
- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks, including sparklers.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person or occupied area.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy, in case of a fire.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the device with water from a bucket or house before discarding.

To avoid injury from fireworks, consider going to a local professional display this holiday season. For more information on fireworks safety go to: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks>