



City of Malibu News

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The City of Malibu Joins Fire Departments in Discouraging the Use of Illegal, Dangerous Fireworks

(Malibu, CA) – The City of Malibu joins the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Los Angeles County Fire Department in strongly discouraging the use of dangerous, illegal consumer fireworks to celebrate July 4th or any other event.

“While we all work to get through the COVID-19 pandemic, people understandably long for beloved annual celebrations like the festive fireworks that go with Independence Day,” said Mayor Karen Farrer. “Please celebrate Independence day safely, and do not use fireworks.”

All consumer fireworks are illegal in Los Angeles County. With many public fireworks events being cancelled, including in Malibu, we have been seeing more and more fireworks going up in the sky and hearing the booms of private, illegal fireworks in recent days.

Every year, they cause thousands of fires and injuries. Even sparklers, which are often considered harmless enough for children, burn as hot as 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit and can cause third-degree burns. In 2018, fireworks started an estimated 19,500 fires, including 1,900 structure fires, 500 vehicle fires, and 17,100 outside and other fires in the U.S., according to the NFPA. These fires caused five deaths, 46 civilian injuries, and \$105 million in direct property damage nationwide.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 9,100 non-occupational fireworks-related injuries, mostly burns and injuries to hands, legs, and eyes. About 36% of the people injured by fireworks were children ages 10-14.

For more information about the dangers of consumer fireworks, visit <http://www.nfpa.org/fireworks>.

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