



Smoke Signals

A Life Safety Newsletter

Special Edition: 4th of July

Summer 2014



City of Dallas

4th of July Life and Fire Safety: Be Safe!

After confiscating over 300 pounds of fireworks in 2013, Dallas Fire-Rescue will again monitor the area parks and lakes for illegal use of fireworks. Fireworks will be confiscated throughout the city. Anyone caught with fireworks may be issued a citation, with fines up to \$2,000.

Remember that fireworks are illegal in the city of Dallas and up to 5,000 ft. **outside** of the Dallas city limits. Residents of Dallas are encouraged to attend professional fire works displays throughout the city. A few safety rules to consider while attending these functions are:

- Stay at least 500 feet from the professional fireworks displays.
- If you find fireworks, do not touch them but instead direct authorities to them.

Fireworks by the numbers But Aren't Sparklers Safe?

In 2011, fireworks caused an estimated 17,800 reported fires, including 1,200 total structure fires, 400 vehicle fires, and 16,300 outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated eight reported civilian deaths, 40 civilian injuries and \$32 million in direct property damage.

- In 2012, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 8,700 people for fireworks related injuries; 55% of 2012 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and 31% were to the head. The risk of fireworks injury was highest for young people ages 15-24, followed by children under 10.

- On Independence Day in a typical year, far more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day, and fireworks account for two out of five of those fires, more than any other cause of fires.

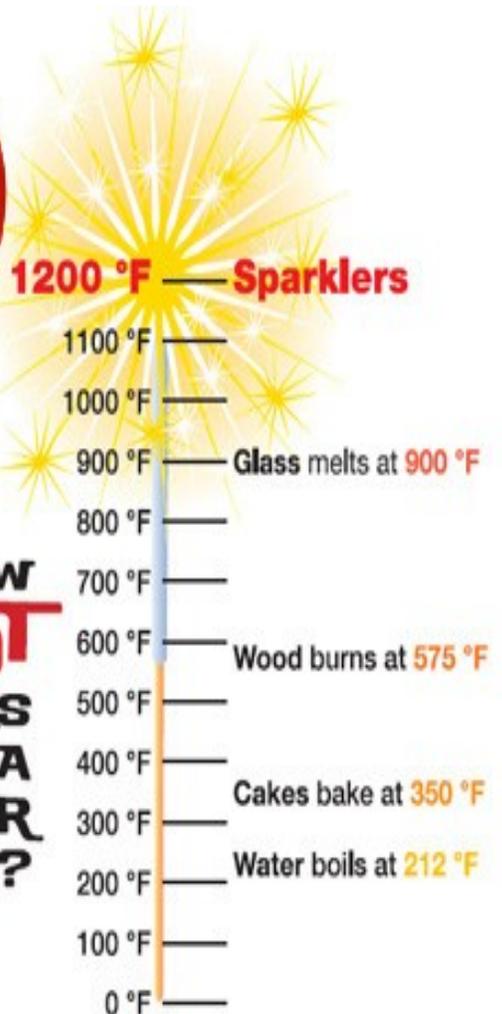
Sparklers are often thought of as a lesser firework but they still pose a danger, especially during high fire danger conditions. Also keep in mind that a Sparkler burns up to 1200° F which is hot enough to cause a third degree burn.

Remember: Fireworks are illegal in Dallas. Fines can reach up to \$2000. Leave fireworks to the professionals!

- Report illegal fireworks use by calling 9-1-1.



HOW HOT DOES A SPARKLER BURN?



13/14-45



Does your home have working smoke alarms?

If your home does not have working smoke alarms, please call 3-1-1. Dallas Fire-Rescue will be glad to install free smoke alarms for you!