## ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

## Fire Safety Article



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## FIREWORKS ARE PROHIBITED

The Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) wants to remind everyone that the sale, discharge or possession of fireworks is illegal in most areas of Orange County. Only five cities allow "safe and sane" fireworks with very specific restrictions on their sale and discharge. Those cities include Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Santa Ana, Garden Grove and Stanton. It is important to know that you cannot buy fireworks in those cities and then light them off in another city.

Firecrackers, bottle rockets, cherry bombs and other devices that explode, move along the ground, or travel through the air are banned throughout the State of California. There is no safe or legal area to possess, sell or discharge these types of dangerous fireworks anywhere in the state.

The OCFA recommends that residents enjoy a Fourth of July celebration with friends and family at a professional fireworks show. Many communities provide additional amenities, including barbecues, concerts and children's activities along with a large fireworks show.

For a listing of professional fireworks shows, please call the OCFA at (714) 573-6225. Show locations are described in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Each year in the United States, more than 10,000 people suffer eye injuries and burns from fireworks, and fireworks cause approximately 3,000 fires. These statistics include both the use of illegal fireworks as well "safe and sane" fireworks. Since 2003, 45 percent of persons injured from fireworks are children 14 years and younger and children ages 5 to 9 have the highest injury rate. Sparklers, which can reach temperatures of more than 1,000 degrees, are responsible for most injuries involving children under the age of five.

To obtain a flyer with additional information on fireworks and fireworks safety, please call the OCFA Community Relations and Education Section at (714) 573-6200 or visit OCFA's website at www.ocfa.org./safety&education.