

Serving the Cities of Kent, SeaTac, Covington, and King County Fire District 37

Professionally and Compassionately Helping People

Celebrate Safely

Kent, Wash. - June 23, 2016- The Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority reminds residents and visitors that the Fourth of July, while a time to celebrate our country's independence, is also a day of potential injuries and fires.

Here are some tips to help you have a safe Fourth of July:

1. Go see one of the area's many free firework displays, including the Fourth of July *Splash* at Lake Meridian and the fireworks display at Angle Lake in SeaTac. Both shows begin at 10:00 pm.
2. Only purchase and discharge legal fireworks. Keep in mind that many of the fireworks you buy on Reservations are not legal in Kent, Covington, and other cities.
3. Always have a garden hose, bucket of water, or fire extinguisher nearby while discharging fireworks.
4. Always discharge fireworks under adult supervision. Remember that fireworks and alcohol consumption *do not* safely mix.
5. When lighting fireworks, wear eye protection and only discharge one firework at a time. Place discharged fireworks in a bucket of water.
6. Do not discharge fireworks where ground conditions are dry and the danger of fire is higher.

Also remember:

1. Fireworks go on sale June 28th but can only be discharged on July 4th.
2. The City of Kent allows fireworks to be discharged between 9:00 am and 11:00 pm. The City of Covington and unincorporated King County allow fireworks to be discharged between 9:00 am and midnight.
3. The City of SeaTac does not allow the possession or discharging of fireworks at any time.
4. Increased safety emphasis patrols by the Kent Police Departments will be out this year. Fines for illegal discharging/possession can exceed \$1,000.
5. Illegal or unwanted fireworks can be dropped off at any Kent Fire Department RFA fire station without penalty or fine.
6. Discharging fireworks on Kent and Covington city property (including parks) as well as on Kent School District properties is prohibited.
7. If you see or hear illegal fireworks being discharged, call 9-1-1. High call volumes on the Fourth of July may delay non-life and property safety responses.
8. Be a good neighbor and clean up any debris from fireworks. Also safely store any matches and lighters so children do not have access to them.

The Kent Fire Department RFA hopes that the residents and visitors to this area have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July.

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