

**Summer Fire Safety-** *Submitted by Sue Lloyd, Barnes County Emergency Manager*

Summer is a time for campfires, barbeques, and fireworks. It can also be a time of extreme fire danger. The information provided here will ensure that you and your family are able to safely enjoy the season.

Fireworks can be legally sold June 27th thru July 5th (NDCC 23-15-01). Check with local law enforcement authorities to find out about what laws may apply in your area. Many cities do not allow fireworks to be put off within city limits. Citizens are asked to properly dispose of their used fireworks as well as an accompanying packaging.

Check with local officials to find out if your county has a burn ban. A burn ban would prohibit the use of fireworks.



*According to the United States Fire Administration (USFA):*

- Annually just under 10,000 Americans are injured by fireworks and almost 5,000 are injured by charcoal/wood-burning and propane grill fires.
- In 2007, 64 percent of fireworks injuries occurred between June 22 and July 22.
- Many families enjoy camping in the summer. It is important to follow the park's rules for the use and extinguishing of campfires.

Summertime should be a time for fun and making happy memories. Knowing a few fire safety tips and following instructions will help everyone have a safe summer.



***Fireworks Safety***

The best way to enjoy fireworks is to visit public fireworks displays put on by professionals who know how to safely handle fireworks.

If you plan to use fireworks, make sure they are legal in your area.

Never light fireworks indoors or near dry grass.

Always have a bucket of water and/or a fire extinguisher nearby. Know how to operate the fire extinguisher properly.

Do not wear loose clothing while using fireworks.

Stand several feet away from lit fireworks. If a device does not go off, do not stand over it to investigate it. Put it out with water and dispose of it.

Always read the directions and warning labels on fireworks. If a device is not marked with the contents, direction and a warning label, do not light it.

Supervise children around fireworks at all times.