

## **Fireworks Safety**

## If you are going to celebrate with fireworks, Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office offers the following fireworks safety tips:

- Always read and follow label directions.
- Only buy fireworks from a reputable and licensed fireworks stand. (State licensed stands have a State Fire Marshal's Retail Permit posted.)
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees hot enough to melt some metals.
- The shooter should always wear eye protection and never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Fireworks should be used Outdoors only.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a "designated shooter."
- Only persons over the age of 12 should be allowed to handle sparklers or fireworks of any type, and only with adult supervision.
- Light only one firework at a time, and then move back quickly.
- Never give fireworks to small children.
- Never throw or point fireworks at other people.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers
- Stay away from illegal fireworks and homemade explosives, never experiment or make your own fireworks, not only is it illegal, but the fireworks may unexpectedly explode and kill you or others!
- Always have water handy (a garden hose and a bucket).
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully (wait 15 to 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water).
- Dispose of fireworks properly by soaking them in water and then disposing of them in your trashcan. After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- If necessary to store fireworks, store them in a cool, dry place.
- Remember fireworks are illegal to possess within the City Limits of the City of Victoria, by Local City Ordinance.

Please be safe with fireworks.

Please report illegal fireworks and explosives to the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office, or Victoria County Sheriff's Office.

Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office	361-579-9103	8-5 M-F
Victoria County Sheriff's Office	361-575-0651	24 hrs
(Non-Emergency)		