

## **Fireworks Safety Tips**

Annually just under 10,000 Americans are injured by fireworks. Parents need to be especially vigilant during this period; ensuring children do not possess illegal fireworks or mishandle legal ones. The Travis County Fire Marshal strongly recommends that you: **LEAVE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS!** If celebrating with fireworks is legal in your area, and you decide to use them, follow these safety tips:

### **Before you shoot:**

- DO NOT LET YOUR CHILDREN BUY FIREWORKS WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION
- Only buy from reliable fireworks sellers
- Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place
- Find a smooth, flat surface -- away from the house and other buildings, or dry leaves and grass
- Be sure to have water handy in case of a malfunction or fire
- ALWAYS HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION!

### **When you're ready to shoot:**

- NEVER ALLOW CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH OR IGNITE FIREWORKS
- Always read and follow label directions, warnings, and instructions
- Be considerate of your neighbors
- Only ignite fireworks outdoors, and away from houses and other buildings
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks
- Light only one firework at a time
- Never try to re-light fireworks that have not fully functioned
- Never give fireworks to small children, even sparklers can cause serious burns
- Never throw fireworks at another person, vehicle, or animal
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers
- Dispose of spent fireworks properly