

Safety Tips

Office of Safety and Mission Assurance

July 2001

Fireworks Safety Tips

If fireworks are legal in your area, follow these important tips for a safe 4th of July:

- Don't allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Don't try to re-light fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface. Stay away from the house, dry and leaves, and other flammable materials.
- Be sure other people are at a safe distance before lighting fireworks, and warn them not to approach.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of a malfunction or fire.



Make Sure Your Home is Safe While You're on Vacation

- Unplug all electrical appliances except the refrigerator.
- Turn off gas pilots and water valves.
- Turn off the water supply to the refrigerator ice maker.
- Keep curtains and shades open in a normal manner.
- Securely lock windows and doors.
- Ask someone to take in your mail and newspapers.
- Notify relatives, friends, or neighbors where you can be reached.
- Notify your alarm company that you will be away.
- Put lights on a timer to simulate a normal, "somebody is home" pattern.



Lawnmower Safety

About 75,000 people are treated in emergency rooms annually for injuries caused by lawnmowers. **Most injuries are the result of human error.** To be safe:

- **Know your equipment.** Read the instruction manual prior to use.
- **Keep blades sharp** and the mower in good working condition.
- Gas up **before** you start mowing, **not when the engine is hot.**
- **Dress for safety** - wear heavy shoes or boots (not tennis shoes or sandals), goggles, gloves, long pants, and hearing protection. And don't forget the sunscreen!
 - **Clear the yard** of rocks, sticks, and debris.
 - **Wait until the grass is dry.**
 - **Never stick hands or feet** into a mower. Stop the mower and use a stick or broom handle to remove grass or debris.
 - **Keep children indoors.** **Never give a child a ride on a mower.**
 - **No drugs or alcohol** before or during mowing.
 - **Be cautious on hills and slopes.** **Mow up and down slopes, not across, with riding mowers.**



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