



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY 2016 - FIREWORK SAFETY TIPS  
FOR THE CITIES OF ARROYO GRANDE AND GROVER BEACH AND THE  
COMMUNITY OF OCEANO**

Fireworks celebrations are fast approaching and the Five Cities Fire Authority would like to remind everyone of precautionary measures to ensure a safe and accident-free holiday:

***It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to purchase fireworks.  
They may use "Safe and Sane" fireworks under adult supervision only.***

1. Fireworks are legally available for sale in the Cities of Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach and the Oceano Community Services District June 28<sup>th</sup> through July 5<sup>th</sup>.
2. Check with local authorities before purchasing fireworks, as some areas ban all fireworks use.
3. Refrain from using any fireworks that are not specifically "Safe and Sane" fireworks which display the State Fire Marshal seal on the package. Items such as M-80s, M-100s, Cherry Bombs, Firecrackers, and Bottle Rockets are not fireworks, they are **banned explosives**.
4. Never hold fireworks in your hand when lighting them.
5. A large bucket of water, sand or a garden hose should be ready at the firing site.
6. Read the instructions on each piece of fireworks so you know how it should be fired.
7. Wear cotton clothing and do not wear nylon, loose clothing or materials that burn quickly when setting off fireworks.
8. Select a firing site free of overhead wires, obstacles such as trees or branches and away from houses. Be mindful that during our current drought conditions

that many people have stopped watering their lawns. The dried grass is combustible.

9. Even with backyard fireworks, a spectator area should be designated at least 15 feet away from where the fireworks are going to be lit. Pets should not be allowed in the area.
10. Dispose of spent fireworks in a container of water.
11. DO NOT attempt to re-light a piece that doesn't go off. Do not approach or move such a piece for at least 30 minutes.
12. **Never alter, modify or enhance fireworks.** Use only as directed.
13. Watch for sparks or debris from fireworks. They can start fires.
14. Burns caused by fireworks can be more serious than they first appear. If you are concerned, check with your family physician.
15. Remember that fireworks are made from explosives, and that they are unpredictable.

The Fire Authority will have units out on patrol during the evenings of July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, as well as the early morning hours of July 5<sup>th</sup>.



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**STEPHEN C. LIEBERMAN**  
**FIRE CHIEF**

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
**DATE**

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:  
STEPHEN LIEBERMAN, FIRE CHIEF  
473-5490**

**END  
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