

# CITY OF MUSCATINE



COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Fireworks Safety:

## CELEBRATE SAFELY THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY

**MUSCATINE, Iowa** – As summer kicks off and the Fourth of July approaches, many families will gather for parades, cookouts, and celebrations. Fireworks often play a big role—but safety must always come first.

### Leave Fireworks to the Pros

The National Safety Council recommends enjoying fireworks at public displays handled by professionals. Even legal consumer fireworks can be dangerous and cause serious injuries.



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## **If You Choose to Use Consumer Fireworks:**

Follow these essential safety tips:

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- Only older children under close adult supervision
- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Wear protective eyewear
- Never light fireworks in your hands or indoors
- Use fireworks away from people, homes, and flammable materials
- Never point or throw fireworks at others
- Light one at a time, then back away
- Never relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks
- Soak used and unused fireworks in water before discarding
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of fire
- Never use illegal fireworks

## **When Can Fireworks Be Used in Muscatine?**

Consumer fireworks may only be discharged in Muscatine between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. on July 3 and July 4, and only on private property owned by the user or with the property owner's permission.

## **What Are Consumer Fireworks?**

These are small-scale fireworks sold to the general public, designed to produce light and sound effects. They're less powerful than professional-grade fireworks but still pose risks.

## **When Can They Be Sold?**

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- Permanent structures: June 1 – July 8 and Dec. 10 – Jan. 3
- Temporary structures (tents, etc.): June 13 – July 8

Sellers must register with the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals & Licensing and pass a fire marshal inspection.

## Fireworks Can Be Dangerous—Injuries Are Common



Thousands of people—many of them children—are injured by fireworks each year. Even sparklers, often considered safe, burn at 2,000°F and cause more than 25% of fireworks-related ER visits.

Consider safer alternatives like glow sticks, confetti poppers, or colored streamers.

## Be Respectful of Neighbors and Pets

Fireworks can be disruptive and distressing for others. Muscatine Police urge everyone to be respectful and follow City Code.

To report illegal use of fireworks, call MUSCOM at 563-263-9922 (non-emergency). Use 911 only for emergencies such as fires or injuries.

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Police will be strictly enforcing fireworks ordinances. Violations may result in fines starting at \$250.

## **City Code Reminders:**

- Only those 18 or older may use fireworks unsupervised
- Parents/guardians must directly supervise minors using fireworks
- It is illegal to use fireworks while intoxicated or in a reckless manner
- Fireworks may only be used in the manner intended—no modifying devices
- Sparklers and similar items may be used in public spaces unless otherwise posted
- Sky lanterns are prohibited unless tethered and under control

## **Pet Owners: Take Extra Precautions**

Loud fireworks can frighten pets and cause them to flee. Keep pets indoors, ensure they are wearing ID tags, and create a calm environment during celebrations.

## **Emergency Situations:**

If a fire starts—on buildings, vehicles, or grass—call 911 immediately.

## **Celebrate Smart. Stay Safe.**

Let's work together to make this Independence Day festive and safe for everyone in Muscatine. For more details, visit the [City of Muscatine Fireworks Safety](#) page.