

June 28, 2022

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County Fire agencies warn community of the extreme danger of fireworks

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CA – Fire agencies throughout Santa Clara County have partnered to remind residents that fireworks are illegal, dangerous and can result in fires and injuries that are easily preventable. Fines will be issued to anyone using, possessing, storing, or selling illegal fireworks. Santa Clara County’s ‘social host’ Fireworks Ordinance holds property owners responsible for the illegal use of fireworks on their property.

This year, the danger of fireworks-caused fires is extreme. “For the past several years we have been experiencing and continue to face unprecedented drought conditions and an ever increasing and very serious wildfire risk,” said Santa Clara County Fire Chief Suwanna Kerdkaew. “We need the public’s awareness and assistance more than ever. Help us prevent wildfires.”

A countywide public outreach and education campaign began June 27 to educate residents that when it comes to fireworks, “It’s Not Worth It” and illegal use can result in dangerous fires and serious injuries. Cities and towns throughout the County will focus efforts on enforcement. Community members are encouraged to report the use of illegal fireworks through the process determined by their home city or town.

“San José has experienced nearly 90 fireworks-related fires over the last two Independence Day holidays,” said San José Fire Chief Robert Sapien, Jr. “Each of these fires caused property and environmental damage that was 100% preventable. If you see illegal fireworks being used in San José, help us hold violators accountable by reporting the activity online or by calling 311.”

“California has a zero-tolerance policy toward illegal fireworks,” said CAL FIRE SCU Unit Chief George Huang. “Large grass crops and abundant vegetation increase the threat for devastating wildfires throughout all of California and that is why we must take all precautions for this upcoming fire year.”

“Illegal fireworks present a significant threat to public safety and are a major contributor to devastating property loss. We are asking the community to recognize and honor the importance of laws banning fireworks and their intention of keeping neighborhoods safer for everyone,” added Deputy Chief Arthur Belton of the Milpitas Fire Department.

Community members are encouraged to participate in safe, legal and fun activities to celebrate Independence Day. “Fireworks are **illegal** in the City of Santa Clara and are a major cause of fires and burn injuries,” commented Chief Ruben Torres of the Santa Clara City Fire Department. “Leave it to the professionals and watch the show at Great America after spending the day picnicking at Central Park!” Wherever the community celebrates, Santa Clara County Fire Chiefs are also asking that the public be careful to maintain roadway access for emergency vehicles. “If we can’t get to the fire, we can’t put it out!” said Gilroy Fire Chief Jim Wyatt.

If there is an active fire or medical emergency, residents should call 9-1-1.



JULY 4, 2022 FIREWORKS SHOWS

CUPERTINO	Creekside Park - 10455 Miller Ave	9:30 PM
GILROY	Gilroy High School - 750 W. 10th St	9:30 PM
MILPITAS	Milpitas Sports Center - 1325 E. Calaveras Blvd	9:00 PM
MOUNTAIN VIEW	Shoreline Amphitheater - One Amphitheatre Pkwy	8:00 PM
MORGAN HILL	Outdoor Sports Complex - 16500 Condit Rd	9:45 PM
SAN JOSE	Discovery Meadow - 180 Woz Way	9:30 PM
SAN JOSE	Almaden Lake Regional Park - 6099 Winfield Blvd	9:15 PM
SANTA CLARA	Great America - 4701 Great America Parkway	9:45 PM