



FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

Fireworks and the Fourth of July go hand-in-hand. We want you to have a safe, fun-filled celebration! About two-thirds of all fireworks-related injuries occur between June 16 and July 16, so keep these safety tips in mind:

- ★ Make sure fireworks are legal in your community before using them.
- ★ Never buy professional-grade fireworks. They are not designed for safe consumer use.
- ★ Keep small children a safe distance from all fireworks, including sparklers, which can burn at temperatures in excess of 2,000 degrees.
- ★ Never reignite or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Keep a bucket of water or garden hose nearby to thoroughly soak duds before throwing them away.
- ★ Keep pets indoors and away from fireworks to avoid contact injuries or noise reactions.

Plan for a Safe and Happy Fourth

Have fun in the sun, but keep food and fireworks safety top of mind

July is a favorite month. It's the middle of summer, the children are out of school and, of course, we celebrate Independence Day! Often, we enjoy grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream, other sweet treats and, finally, fireworks. It is a time for fellowship with family and friends.

Nothing says Fourth of July like a spectacular fireworks display, but the safest way to enjoy this is to head to a local show. If you want to do your own fireworks at home, please keep these safety tips in mind:

- When lighting fireworks, find an open area away from any overhead power lines. Fireworks contacting power lines could cause a fire. If there is an accident involving fireworks and a power line, leave the area immediately and call 911.
- Stay away from KPUD's green utility boxes. Pad-mounted electrical equipment carries high-voltage electricity, providing power to homes and businesses. Do not use this equipment as a seat or a table, and never launch fireworks from pad-mounted electrical equipment.
- Report downed power lines. If you see any downed lines, stay away and report them to KPUD at 509-773-5891.



Stay away from pad-mounted electrical equipment. Do not sit or light fireworks on them.

- Always follow the instructions on the packaging. Never give fireworks to small children.
- Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.
- Wear protective eyewear when lighting fireworks.



If you see a downed or leaning power line, report it to KPUD.

- Light only one firework at a time. Never attempt to relight a dud.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.

Cookouts are a great way to bring folks together on the Fourth. Whether you are grilling in your backyard or at a community park, make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side helping of safety. Consider these safety tips:

- Supervise your grill at all times.
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited.

- Always follow manufacturers' instructions when using grills.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't be complete without a sunny day. Here's hoping we have good weather. If we do, make sure you practice sun safety:

- Use a broad-spectrum SPF sunscreen. Be sure to reapply often.
- Protect your eyes with sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke: hot red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing.

However you choose to celebrate, KPUD wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July. ■

Be Waterwise During a Fire

Please use resources wisely in the event of a fire

During fire season, KPUD requests all customers be prepared to adjust their outdoor watering if there is an unexpected power outage or fire reported in the area.

This is just a precaution. Water is a precious resource that cannot be taken for granted.

Well pumps need power to fill reservoirs, even during outages—thus portable backup generators must be brought in. To help ensure water is available, please ration outdoor watering until power is restored.

When a fire is reported in the area, people tend to go into emergency mode and saturate everything outside. This is a natural response. However, when everyone has the same reaction and emergency fire personnel are tapping into the water system too, it can make a huge impact on the level of water within the reservoir.

We all must be aware and considerate of this aspect as we want water for fire protection when it is needed most. Obviously, if your home is in immediate danger, utilize the water.

Please be considerate of everyone within the system and use water wisely during the unlikely event of fire.

Thank you for your cooperation—and enjoy your summer!



**Klickitat County PUD's
offices are closed Monday,
July 4, in observance of
Independence Day.**

ADOBE STOCK GRAPHIC BY FIREWINGS