



# RANCHO SANTA FE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

118027 Calle Ambiente / P.O. Box 410, Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 27, 2011

CONTACT: Julie Taber  
Public Information Officer  
Office: (858) 756-6008  
Mobile: (858) 775-7608

## **LEAVE THE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS**

RANCHO SANTA FE, Calif. – With the 4<sup>th</sup> of July just a few days away, the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District would like to remind everyone that fireworks, an exciting and traditional part of our Independence Day celebrations, are best left to the experts. Aside from professional displays, *ALL* fireworks are illegal in San Diego County. This includes, but is not limited to, firecrackers, torpedoes, sky-rockets, Roman candles, sparklers, snap caps, and poppers. Legal firework shows done by professional pyrotechnicians can be viewed throughout San Diego County.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, thousands of people, including children and teens, are injured every year while using consumer fireworks. Even something as “harmless” as a sparkler, which burns at over 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, can cause critical injuries and pose a serious fire hazard. Due to the high risk of injury and fire presented by these items, possessing fireworks is a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, imprisonment of up to one year, or both. By leaving the fireworks up to the professionals, we can all enjoy a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

The mission of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District is “To protect life, property, and environment through prevention, preparedness, education and emergency response.” Formed in 1946, the Fire District now spans approximately 38-square miles and protects over 29,000 citizens. The Fire District currently operates out of four full-time fire stations and serves the communities within and surrounding Rancho Santa Fe, Fairbanks Ranch, and 4S-Ranch.

###