



RANCHO SANTA FE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 28, 2016

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LEAVE THE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS

RANCHO SANTA FE, Calif. – With the 4th 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 (NFPA), an estimated average 18,500 reported fires were started by fireworks each year from 2009-2015. In 2014, an estimated 10,500 people were treated for firework-related injuries in hospital emergency rooms throughout the United States. In addition to those fire injuries, 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, especially with the current drought conditions, possessing fireworks in San Diego County is a misdemeanor. In addition, any individual who starts a fire through the use of illegal fireworks may be required to pay for the firefighting efforts. By leaving the fireworks up to the professionals, we can all enjoy a happy and safe 4th 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 five full-time fire stations and serves the communities within and surrounding Rancho Santa Fe, Fairbanks Ranch, and 4S-Ranch.

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