



MEDIA RELEASE

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How to bake a cake with a sparkler

July 4th safety tips and state and local laws from ZFD

With July 4th approaching, many will celebrate our country's freedom with fireworks. Sparklers may seem harmless, but many reported firework injuries reported around the holiday are from sparklers. Zionsville Fire Department would like to remind the community of some important fireworks safety tips and laws recommended by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security:

- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from the reach of children.
- Always purchase fireworks from reliable, licensed dealers.
- Use a clear, open area and keep the audience at a safe distance from the shooting site.
- Do not attempt to make or alter any fireworks or fireworks device.
- Only light one firework at a time and never attempt to re-light or fix a "dud" firework.
- Have a fire extinguisher, water supply, hose or bucket of water nearby.
- Use extreme caution when lighting fireworks in the wind. Keep spectators where the wind is blowing away from them.
- Never smoke or consume alcohol when lighting fireworks.

"Although you really cannot bake a cake with a sparkler, sparklers do get hotter than ovens. In fact, sparklers get hot enough to melt glass and even some metals," said ZFD Chief James VanGorder. "Remember, fireworks are dangerous, especially for children. Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks."

A Zionsville tradition, the Zionsville Lions Club 4th of July event will kick off at 5 p.m. at Lions Park. With live entertainment, food and a kid's corner, this is a safe alternative to individuals lighting their own fireworks.

For those who want to celebrate the holiday with their own fireworks display, below are local and state laws:

- Private fireworks may be set off only on the user's property, the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks or at a special discharge location designated by the State Fire Marshal.
- Users are responsible for all debris resulting from the discharge of private fireworks.
- A person may ignite/discharge consumer fireworks within the Town of Zionsville limits between the hours of 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. on non-holidays and during the following times:
 - Between the hours of 9 a.m. and midnight on Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day and New Year's Eve.
 - Until two hours past sunset on June 29-30, July 1-3 and July 5-9.

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