

fireworks account for two out of five of those fires.

The New York State Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association urges the public to avoid the use of consumer fireworks, and instead to enjoy displays of fireworks conducted by trained professionals.

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Leave fireworks to the professionals on July 4

Each July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few understand the associated risks — devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death.

In 2011, fireworks caused an estimated 17,800 reported fires, including 1,200 structure fires, 400 vehicle fires, and 16,300 outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated eight reported civilian deaths, 40 civilian injuries and \$32 million in property damage. U.S. emergency rooms treated an estimated 9,600 people for fireworks-related injuries; 61 percent of the injuries were to the extremities, and 34 percent were to the head.

On Independence Day, far more fires are typically reported than on any other day, and