**FIREWORKS** Always use extreme caution when handling fireworks of any type, even sparklers.

- Always have a sober adult in charge
- NEVER give fireworks or sparklers to young children
- Only buy legal fireworks from a licensed seller
- Read and follow the directions on the labels
- NEVER carry a firework in your pocket or hold a lit firework in your hand
- NEVER shoot fireworks from a metal or glass container
- Keep spectators at a safe distance
- Always wear safety glasses when igniting fireworks
- Don't aim or throw fireworks at another person
- Never place any part of your body directly over a firework device - even when lighting
- Only use consumer fireworks away from homes, buildings and dry grass - on a flat, level, hard, fireproof surface, such as concrete, that is free from debris
- Have a working garden hose and/or bucket of water nearby in case of emergencies
- When finished, allow used fireworks to stand for at least 20 minutes, submerge in water, drain, place in a plastic bag and dispose outside in a covered trash can
- Light only one firework at a time
- NEVER approach or try to re-ignite a firework that doesn't light the first time
- **PROTECT YOUR PETS!** Animals are often frightened by the sounds of fireworks. Protect your "best friends" by keeping them indoors, secure and away from the loud, sudden noises
- Always check with your local city and county governments as there may be certain areas where consumer fireworks are not permitted


**STEPS TO PREVENT MOSQUITO BITES** When in areas with Zika and other diseases spread by mosquitoes:

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Stay in places with air conditioning and window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Take steps to control mosquitoes inside and outside your home. Remember to 'Tip 'n Toss' standing water outdoors!
- Sleep under a mosquito bed net if you are overseas or outside and are not able to protect yourself from mosquito bites.
- When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breast-feeding women.
  - If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen before applying insect repellent.
- To protect your child from mosquito bites:
  - Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than 2 months old.

https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellent

**GRILLING**

To keep you and your family safe while grilling, follow these general guidelines:

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.
- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
**CHARCOAL GRILLS**
- Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add to the fire charcoal starter fluid or any other flammable liquids.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use starter fluid/fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

**PROPANE GRILLS**
- Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year.
- Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles.
- If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.
- **If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department.**
  https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets

**BEAT THE HEAT** - Whether you're working or playing outside in the summer, anybody not accustomed to the heat is at risk for a heat-related illness. Take steps to protect yourself:
- Wear appropriate clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat
- Take frequent water breaks
- Apply sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15
- Never leave kids or pets unattended in a vehicle

  **BEWARE OF HEATSTROKE** – Temperatures inside a car even on a mild day can quickly rise to dangerous levels. Avoid heatstroke-related injury or death by never leaving your child or pet alone in the car. Create reminders and habits that give you a safety net. Leave an item in the back seat so you don’t forget about your loved one. Call 911 if you see an unattended child or pet in a vehicle.
  https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/tools-resources/seasonal-safety/summer

**CREATE A PLAN FOR NAVIGATING DURING SUMMER SHOWERS** - Wet pavement contributes to nearly 1.2 million traffic crashes each year. Before your road trip, replace windshield wipers, check your headlights, and make sure your tires have proper tread depth and tire pressure (don't forget to check the spare). Avoid using cruise control, slow down, leave extra room between vehicles, and make sure your headlights are turned on.
  http://newsroom.aaa.com/
  https://newsroom.aaa.com/safety/safety-articles-information/

**WATER SAFETY** - More than one in five drowning victims are children 14-years-old and younger, and most incidents happen when a child falls into a pool or is left alone in the bathtub. Keep your kids safe in the water:
- Enroll children over the age of three in swimming lessons
- Don't rely on lifeguards to watch over your children
- Never leave your child unattended
  https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/tools-resources/seasonal-safety/drowning

**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE** - Drinking and driving is a treat to everyone. Every day, almost 30 people in the United States die in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver. This amounts to one death every 51 minutes. Driving drunk is never OK. Choose not to drink and drive and help others do the same. Take a few minutes to make sure you and others avoid impaired driving.
- Designate a non-drinking driver before any party or celebration begins. Remind others to do the same.
- Don't drink and drive. Get a ride home or call a taxi.
- Take the keys. Don't let someone else drink and drive.
- If you're hosting a party where alcohol will be served, remind your guests to plan ahead and designate their sober driver; offer alcohol-free beverages; and make sure all guests leave with a sober driver.
- Buckle up every time. It's your best defense against a drunk driver.
  https://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/
  https://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/impaired_driving/impaired-drv_factsheet.html