

# *Putnam County Health Department*

In Cooperation with  
The Department of Health of Missouri

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **Fireworks Safety**

*Tips to help you protect your family this Fourth of July*

**Putnam County, Missouri** - The Fourth of July is just around the corner! Fireworks displays can cause much excitement; but, with fireworks come great responsibility. If not handled properly, fireworks can cause burn and eye injuries.

It is very important that you keep the following fireworks safety tips in mind should you choose to use them.

- Kids should never play with fireworks. Firecrackers and rockets are just too dangerous. If you give kids sparklers, make sure they keep them outside and away from the face, clothing, and hair. Sparklers can reach temperatures hot enough to melt gold.
- Steer clear of brush, leaves, and other flammable substances. Fireworks may backfire or shoot off in the wrong direction.
- Don't hold fireworks in your hand or have any part of your body over them while lighting. Never throw or point fireworks at homes or someone else.
- Light one firework at a time and never relight a dud.
- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water and a hose nearby in case of accidents.
- Keep pets indoors. Animals have sensitive ears and can be extremely frightened or stressed on the Fourth of July.

Remember these tips when handling fireworks and have a safe and happy Fourth of July!

The Putnam County Health Department is committed to the protection and improvement of health and the quality of life for all members of our surrounding community. For more information, call (660) 947-2429 or visit <http://putnamcohealthdept.org/index.html>.



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