



ROUTT COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: June 28, 2011

Time: 1400 Hours

TIPS FOR A SAFE FOURTH OF JULY

Routt County, Colorado – The Fourth of July is a time for celebration. Please use caution to ensure a fire-safe holiday. The wildland fire partners of Routt County remind you that fireworks are not toys. They can cause severe injuries, blinding, and could result in death. Don't play with fireworks of any kind. Know and obey the laws. Remember that fireworks of any kind are illegal on U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands. It is also illegal for persons under the age of 16 to purchase fireworks. A sparkler, usually considered safe, burns at a very high temperature and ignites clothing easily. Always keep children away from fireworks.

Review Our Safety Tips...

- Use fireworks outdoors only.
- Always have water handy (a hose or bucket).
- Only use fireworks as intended. Don't try to alter or combine them.
- Never re-light a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Use common sense. Spectators should keep a safe distance from the shooter and the shooter should wear safety glasses.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a "designated shooter."
- Only persons over the age of 12 should be allowed to handle sparklers of any type.

Fireworks that are permissible for use in Colorado include sparklers, fountains, ground spinners and novelty fireworks that do not explode, leave the ground, or fly through the air. Firecrackers, rockets (including bottle rockets), roman candles, mortars and the like are not legal anywhere in Colorado.

The Routt County Office of Emergency Management invites you to celebrate our nation's heritage on the Fourth of July, but celebrate safely!

The National Council on Fireworks Safety: www.fireworkssafety.org

– END –

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