

Press Release
FIREWORKS – 4TH OF JULY

Immediate Release

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Every year, thousands of injuries occur as the result of improper handling of fireworks and/or faulty firework explosions. Some of these injuries are serious enough to require hospital treatment and some leave the citizens with permanent disabilities. It only takes a split second for something to go wrong. This was the case with Jason Pierre-Paul of the New York Giants and it almost cost him his professional football career. Here is a link to his story <https://www.si.com/nfl/2016/04/12/jason-pierre-paul-giants-fireworks-destroyed-hand-exclusive>

In the past, the Pecan Grove Fire Department has responded to various fires in fields and on the roof of homes due to the use of fireworks. Here are a couple of tips to help with possible fires around your home. 1) Clean all leaves and debris for your roof and gutters. 2) Remove tall grass and weeds from within 10 to 15 feet of your home.

For the safety of the citizens of Pecan Grove, we ask that you follow the firework safety tips below while using fireworks.

- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult SHOULD supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a “dud” firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never carry fireworks in your POCKET or shoot them into METAL or GLASS containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

The fourth of July is a very special time of the year and has been celebrated with the use of fireworks for many years. The Pecan Grove Fire Department would like to encourage citizens to view firework displays at organized public celebrations.

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE FOURTH OF JULY 2017.