



Snohomish County
Office of the Executive
Aaron Reardon
County Executive

Media Advisory—June 28, 2007

Contact: Veltry Johnson, Executive Office

Office: 425.388.3883

Cell: 425.754.6581

Email: Veltry.Johnson@co.snohomish.wa.us

Celebrate Safely on Independence Day

Executive Aaron Reardon today urged citizens to “Celebrate Safely” with the June 28 opening of County retail fireworks stands. “We are asking everyone to act responsibly in discharging fireworks and enjoying festivities,” Reardon said.

Snohomish County Fire Marshall Tom Maloney says there is much that can be done to protect children, the public and our communities from fireworks injury or damage, “Set family boundaries. Supervision is paramount in keeping children safe.”

Maloney cautions fireworks should not be readily available to tempt the curiosity of young children, and should be stored in a secured location to prohibit their access.

Educate every member of your family about “**The Three B’s**”:

BEFORE LIGHTING FIREWORKS—“Be Prepared!”

Purchase only legal fireworks, available at licensed stands. Purchase only the quantity that you will use. Ensure the safety of pets. Keep a bucket of water nearby in which to place all used fireworks. Have a water hose or fire extinguisher nearby to put out stray sparks. Clear a level area away from things that can burn. Know the emergency number to call for your area, your address/location, and basic first aid. Teach your children to “stop, drop, and roll” if their clothes catch on fire.

WHEN LIGHTING FIREWORKS—“Be Safe!”

Only adults should light fireworks. Use eye protection, wear safety goggles. Light one at a time and move away quickly. Keep spectators at a safe distance. Use only outdoors, away from anything that can burn. To prevent injuries, follow the directions on the label carefully. Be considerate of your neighbors, family pets and your environment.

WHEN FINISHED — “Be Responsible!”

Clean up all debris when finished. Duds can be dangerous; if a fireworks item does not light or fire, an adult should wait at least five minutes, approach it carefully, and place it in a bucket of water. Make sure unused fireworks, matches and lighters are out of sight and reach of children.

To learn about a community fireworks display near you. Visit the [Fourth of July Fireworks Safety](#) web page. For more information contact your local fire department.