

STAY SAFE THIS BONFIRE NIGHT

Fireworks

- Look for the kite mark and British Standard number 7114.
- Only buy fireworks meant for home use – **not** exhibition display ones.
- Follow the instructions for use stringently.
- Have a torch and bucket of water/sand nearby.
- Check the weather – postpone your event if it is too windy.
- Use a long taper to light the firework.
- If a firework fails to go off – WAIT – then approach with caution and cover with sand/water. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RE-IGNITE.**
- Do not set off fireworks after 11pm (respect your community).

Sparklers

- Do not give sparklers to a child under 5 years of age.
- Only allow a single sparkler to a person at any one time.
- Remind children to keep at arms-length.
- Ensure children are chaperoned by an adult when holding a sparkler.
- Extinguish into a bucket of sand/water when they have gone out.
- Sparklers reach temperatures 5x hotter than cooking oil.

Pets

- Most pets will become stressed (to noises and bangs).
- Ensure dogs have had a long walk before the celebrations are likely to begin. (You won't want any toilet accidents indoors!)
- Give them plenty of water; pets become dehydrated when stressed.
- Close windows and doors to prevent them getting outside.
- It's a good idea to make sure your pet has been microchipped, just in case they do run out and become lost or in fear of returning.
- If your pet hides (e.g. under table) leave them there. Trying to coax them out causes more stress.
- Stress and fear can be fatal. Your pet won't understand what's happening.

Bonfires

- Spare a thought for the wildlife too. Small animals (such as hedgehogs), may have nestled under the bonfire pile.
- Avoid building the bonfire days ahead as this will reduce the chance of wildlife nesting. Try to leave it until the day before at the earliest.
- Build as far away as possible from trees and habitats.
- Check for wildlife before lighting the fire. Light the bonfire from one side only so any wildlife that may be hiding can have a better chance of escaping.
- It is illegal to burn most types of waste: treated wood; tyres; plastics; rubber; and oil. These can seriously harm health and pollute the environment.
- Any material for the bonfire should be clean, non-commercial waste and only *small amounts* of untreated wood, paper, leaves, and cardboard used.

It may be tempting to burn old bits of furniture, mattresses and household rubbish, but the toxic fumes given off from burning certain types of material can cause pollution and damage people's health. Even stuffing a Guy Fawkes effigy with scraps of used foam or old clothing should be avoided.

Health

- If you suffer from asthma, heart condition or bronchitis, keep windows closed and watch from indoors, where it is warmer and free from smoky atmosphere.
- Wrap up warm. It may seem mild outside but it will feel much colder whilst standing still and watching the display.

Fireworks are very dangerous. 65% of injuries occur to the spectators.
If you clothing catches fire, remember to **STOP, DROP** and **ROLL**

STOP what you are doing

DROP to the ground

ROLL to extinguish the flame



Click on the link below which includes additional home safety links
<https://www.rospa.com/home-safety/advice/fireworks-safety>

STAY SAFE AND HAVE FUN!