

Celebrate Safely: Four Safety Tips for the Fourth of July Holiday

Release Date: July 2, 2024

BOTHELL, Wash. – With [extreme heat](#) events on the rise across the country this summer, FEMA reminds everyone to prioritize safety while making holiday and summer plans. You should exercise caution for any outdoor events and celebrations involving fireworks, grilling, or campfires, because these popular summer activities can also pose a fire hazard.

According to the [National Fire Protection Association](#), fireworks cause an estimated 31,302 reported fires in the United States each year. Furthermore, with extreme heat serving as the leading weather-related cause of death, any outdoor summer gathering can become deadly.

During wildfire season, it is important that residents proactively plan and prepare for the holiday and summer weather. FEMA encourages you to follow a few tips to stay safe:

- **Leave the work to the professionals and enjoy the show!** Attend a public display of fireworks in your community to reduce the risk of injury. If you decide to use consumer fireworks, follow local regulations. Thousands of individuals are injured by fireworks each year on the Fourth of July – and children and teens are more likely to be among this group. Educate young ones on fireworks safety ahead of the holiday and ensure there is always adequate adult supervision during festivities.
- **Location, location, location.** Map out and plan your outdoor adventures and gatherings by prioritizing safety. Build campfires at least 25 feet away from tents, shrubs, or anything that can burn. Place your barbecue grill away from any overhanging branches, eaves, siding, or deck railings. Follow [grilling fire safety](#) guidelines and maintain a 3 feet safety zone around the grill to keep children and pets safe.
- **Know the signs of heat-related illnesses.** Monitor the weather and take extra [precautions](#) during extreme heat-related events. Wear lightweight, loose-fitting,



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light-colored clothing and a wide-brimmed hat. Become familiar with the [signs](#) of heat-related illnesses and practice caution when temperatures rise above 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

- **Stay hydrated and seek shade.** Drink lots of water to stay hydrated. Seek shade to take breaks and cool down while having fun in the sun.

Visit [ready.gov](#) for additional tips on how to beat the heat and practice fire safety. FEMA wishes you a happy and safe Fourth of July and summer.

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