



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Matthew W. Knott

Division Chief of Training-Rockford Fire

June 30, 2011

Phone: (815) 987-5660

E-mail: matt.knott@rockfordil.gov

Fireworks Safety

ROCKFORD – With the Fourth of July rapidly approaching, the Rockford Fire Department wishes to remind everyone to be careful and enjoy the Holiday safely.

“We have had numerous structure fires and injuries caused by the careless use of illegal fireworks in the city,” said Division Chief of Fire Prevention and Training Matthew Knott. “The best places to enjoy fireworks are the public displays conducted by trained professionals.”

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), “Fireworks during the Fourth of July are as American as apple-pie, but did you know that more fires are reported on that day than on any other day of the year in the United States? Nearly half of these fires are caused by fireworks”.

The NFPA offers these safety tips.

PROCEED WITH CAUTION!

- Leave fireworks to the professionals. Do not use consumer fireworks.
- The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display conducted by trained professionals.
- After the firework display, children should never pick up fireworks or any remains that may be left over, they may still be active.

Additional information can be found at www.rockfordil.gov/fire

###