Pennington County, S.D. – Every year law enforcement and public safety agencies are flooded with questions about fireworks. To accommodate the interest and answer questions efficiently, the Emergency Services Communication Center will again host a special line dedicated to information related to fireworks: what is legal, where, and public displays. *The public may call (605) 394-2151, option 9, for answers to fireworks related questions.*

No fireworks are allowed in Black Hills Fire Protection District. Fireworks are prohibited within Rapid City (and a one-mile radius from city limits), Hill City, Keystone and Wall city limits, other than novelty fireworks. Novelty fireworks are party poppers, snappers, sparklers, and toy caps. Box Elder allows for the discharge of fireworks in the city limits July 3-5, 2020 between 9am-11pm; and New Underwood allows fireworks in city limits June 27 – July 5, 2020.

Where permitted, South Dakota state law allows the discharge of fireworks from June 27 through July 5, 2020. The illegal use of fireworks is an offense punishable by a fine of up to $500, 30 days in jail, or both. Pennington County deputies are planning to have an increased evening presence in areas within the one-mile radius of the city limits of Rapid City, including portions of Rapid Valley. Citations may be issued after 11:00pm or any time of day when someone is reckless or negligent with fireworks.

### 2020 BLACK HILLS REGIONAL PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

The best and safest way to enjoy fireworks is to go to a public firework display and leave the lighting to the professionals. The following are available in the Black Hills region.

#### JULY 2ND

- Belle Fourche: BH Round-Up, 10-10:30pm, after rodeo

#### JULY 3RD

- Belle Fourche: BH Round-Up, 10-10:30pm, after rodeo
- Mount Rushmore National Memorial: [https://www.nps.gov/moru/planyourvisit/independence-day-events.htm](https://www.nps.gov/moru/planyourvisit/independence-day-events.htm)
- Sturgis: Sturgis Fairgrounds, DUSK

#### JULY 4TH

- Custer: Pageant Hill, DUSK
- Hot Springs: DUSK
- Phillip: Lake Waggoner, DUSK
- Piedmont: The Barn, DUSK
- Rapid City, City of: Executive Golf Course, DUSK - 210 Founders Park (Rain date July 5.)
- Rapid City: Black Hills Speedway, after races - 2467 Jolly Lane (Rain date July 5th)
• Rapid City: Post 22 Baseball, 10pm, after game - Floyd Fitzgerald Stadium, 2721 Canyon Lake Drive

July 5TH

• Wall, at the golf course, DUSK

NO JULY 4TH PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAYS in 2020 in the following communities/locations:
   Elks Lodge/Golf Course (Rapid City), Interior, and Lead

BLACK HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT: STATE CODIFIED LAW PROHIBITS THE SALE AND DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS within the boundaries of the Black Hills Fire Protection District. This boundary is basically anything west of Highway 79 from Hot Springs to approximately I-90, Exit 61. The boundary follows I-90 east of Black Hawk and Piedmont. (See map on page 3)

The following municipalities in Pennington County have ordinances governing the discharge of fireworks in their boundaries:

BOX ELDER: Allows for the discharge of fireworks inside Box Elder city limits July 3-5, 2020 between 9am-11pm; and December 31 beginning at 9am and ceasing at 1am on January 1, 2021.

HILL CITY: NO DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS IS PERMITTED in Hill City limits.

KEYSTONE: NO DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS IS PERMITTED in Keystone city limits.

NEW UNDERWOOD: Allows for the discharge of fireworks inside New Underwood city limits between June 27 - July 5, 2020 only. For additional information (605) 754-6777 or (605) 209-1305.

PENNINGTON COUNTY: County ordinance allows the discharge of fireworks when the grassland fire index conditions are low, moderate, or high.

RAPID CITY: NO DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS IS PERMITTED inside the city limits or one (1) mile outside the city limits, except "novelty" type. “Novelty” is loosely defined as snaps, caps, pull-a-parts, and fireworks you can toss on the ground. If you need further clarification contact: Rapid City Fire Department, Fire and Life Safety Division (605) 394-5233

WALL: NO DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS IS PERMITTED in Wall city limits.

There is currently no ban on the discharge of fireworks outside the boundaries of municipalities which are not within the Black Hills Fire Protection District. Consumer Grade Fireworks are permitted to be discharged per South Dakota State Statue 34-37-16.1, June 27 - July 5, 2020 ONLY

This should be done in a safe manner on the individual’s own property or with the permission of the landowner. Fireworks are not permitted to be discharged on public land or public roadway as well as at or from a moving vehicle. Those participating in the discharge of fireworks are strongly encouraged to clean up all litter created.
34-37-11. Sale or use prohibited in forests, parks and other specified areas – Exception -- Violation as misdemeanor. No person may sell or cause to be sold, discharge, or cause to be discharged, any pyrotechnics of any description or any consumer fireworks within the exterior boundaries of the Black Hills Forest Fire Protection District, and no person may discharge or cause to be discharged any pyrotechnics or consumer fireworks within a zone that extends three hundred feet beyond the exterior boundaries of the Black Hills Forest Fire Protection District in this state. No person may sell or cause to be sold, discharge, or cause to be discharged, any pyrotechnics of any description or any consumer fireworks within any national forest, national park, state forest, or any land owned or leased by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks. However, the Department of Game, Fish and Parks may, by written authorization, permit the discharge of pyrotechnics or consumer fireworks, pyrotechnic displays, sales, or exhibits on land owned or leased by the department unless otherwise prohibited by statute. Any violation of this section which occurs on any land owned or leased by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks is a Class 2 misdemeanor. Any subsequent violation of this Section is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Follow these safety tips when using fireworks:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don’t realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.

**LEAVE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS**

1. The best way to stay safe from fireworks and protect your family is to not use them. Instead, attend public fireworks displays and leave the lighting to the professionals.
2. If you plan to use fireworks, make sure they are legal in your area.

**BE EXTRA CAREFUL WITH SPARKLERS**

1. Little arms are too short to hold sparklers, which can heat up to 1,200-1,800 degrees. How about this? Let your young children use glow sticks instead. They can be just as fun, but they do not burn at a temperature hot enough to melt glass.
2. Always closely supervise children around fireworks.

**TAKE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS**

1. Do not wear loose clothing while using fireworks.
2. Never light fireworks indoors or near dry grass.
3. Point fireworks away from homes, and keep away from brush, leaves and flammable substances.
4. Always have a bucket of water, or water hose, nearby.
5. **And remember - ALCOHOL AND FIREWORKS DO not MIX!**
Fireworks Injuries

280 people on average go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday.

Fireworks Safety Tips

★ Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.

★ Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.

★ Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.

★ Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.

★ Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.

★ More Fireworks Safety Tips — www.cpsc.gov/fireworks

Injuries by Fireworks Type*

14% Sparklers
12% Reloadable Skulls
10% Firecrackers
4% Roman Candles
3% Bottle Rockets
8% Novelties
2% Multiple Tubes
2% Fountains
39% Unspecified

Injuries by Age

11% 0-4
14% 5-19
15% 20-24
6% 25-44
11% 45-64
14% 5-9
28% 10-14
6% 15-19
1% 20-24

PET SAFETY

- Do not bring your pets to a fireworks display, even a small one.
- If fireworks are being used near your home, put your pet in a safe, interior room to avoid exposure to the sound.
- Make sure your pet has an identification tag in case it runs off during a fireworks display.
- Never shoot fireworks of any kind (consumer fireworks, sparklers, fountains, etc.) near pets.

FIREWORKS BY THE NUMBERS

- Fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires per year, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and 16,900 outside and other fires. These fires caused an average of three deaths, 40 civilian injuries, and an average of $43 million in direct property damage.
- In 2017, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 12,900 people for fireworks related injuries; 51% of those injuries were to the extremities and 41% were to the head. Children younger than 15 years of age accounted for one-quarter (26%) of the estimated 2015 injuries. These injury estimates were obtained or derived from the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s 2017 Fireworks Annual Report by Yongling Tu.

Source: NFPA’s Research, Data & Analytics Division

280 people go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday.

Sparklers Can Burn at 2,000°F
Hot as a Blow Torch!

Know the Risks. Prevent the Tragedies.
Fireworks are illegal on public lands: every forest, every campsite, every day. #safetyfirst

fs.fed.us
Injuries to Children – The Facts

Children between the ages of 5 and 18 are by nature adventurous & experimental; thus much more likely to take risks. Because of this, children in this age group require close adult supervision – particularly when engaging in outdoor activities where they may be at risk for injury. While each year some interest groups use the Independence Day holiday to single out fireworks for their injury potential for children – at times urging outright prohibition – the statistical facts speak otherwise.

Fireworks-related injuries are actually among the lowest when compared to other summertime outdoor activities. Data collected through the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s National Electronic Injury Surveillance System indicates the extent to which children in this age group incur injuries as a result of product-related outdoor activities. Just how do fireworks-related injuries compare to other summertime outdoor activities – particularly around the July 4th holiday time period?

While over two thirds of the total annual fireworks related injuries for children in this age bracket occur in the period between mid-June and mid-July, a study released in 2010 by the American Academy of Pediatrics noted that they remain less than 4% of those attributed to other common pastimes enjoyed during the Independence Day season.

The fireworks industry is committed to providing the safest products available as well as educating the public on the proper ways to safely enjoy the American tradition of celebrating with backyard fireworks. As with all outdoor activities, vigilant adult supervision is the key to avoiding injury and unnecessary trips to the doctor. When safety rules and common sense are observed, families can safely enjoy backyard fireworks activities this 4th of July.

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1 Pediatrics. “Epidemiology of Pediatric Holiday-Related Injuries Presenting to US Emergency Departments” April 5, 2010
2 2016 NEISS Estimates; CPSC National Injury Information Clearinghouse

Source: American Pyrotechnics Association
RESOLUTION 20-17

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF BOX ELDER FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY DURING THE YEAR 2020 FOR CITY OF BOX ELDER, MEADE COUNTY AND PENNINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, the City of Box Elder has Ordinance 510 which bans the use or discharge of fireworks as defined in SDCL 34-37 within the jurisdiction of the City unless allowed by resolution by the Council;

WHEREAS, the South Dakota grassland fire danger index is below or is expected to remain below the very high or extreme category in those areas in and around the City of Box Elder, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Box Elder deems that fireworks should be allowed in and around the Fourth of July holiday (July 3rd through July 5th), and New Year’s holiday (December 31st, 2020 through January 1st, 2021).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Box Elder, South Dakota, that the discharge of fireworks will be allowed within the City Limits of Box Elder for the Fourth of July, and New Year’s Holiday, as designated in Ordinance #510 and SDCL 34-37. Local fireworks discharge may commence on the following dates and during the following times:

- July 3rd beginning at 9:00 am and ceasing at 11:00 pm.
- July 4th beginning at 9:00 am and ceasing at 11:00 pm.
- July 5th beginning at 9:00 am and ceasing at 11:00 pm.
- December 31st, 2020 beginning and 9:00 am and ceasing at 1:00 am on January 1st, 2021.

Citizens are responsible for all firework discharge clean up. Children, 18 and under, must be supervised by a parent or guardian when discharging fireworks. The parent or guardian is responsible for any liability for the child discharging fireworks. In the event that the grassland fire danger exceeds the “High” level, private or citizen use of fireworks would be prohibited.

Furthermore, fireworks may be discharged only on private property, with the permission of the landowner. Discharge of fireworks on public property is strictly prohibited.

Dated at Box Elder, South Dakota, this 20th day of May 2020.

BOX ELDER COMMON COUNCIL

Seal: __________________________ Attest: ________________________

Larry Larson
Mayor

Nicole Schneider
Finance Officer
South Dakota Codified Law

SDCL 34-37-16.1 Allow the general public to discharge fireworks only between June 27 and the Sunday after July 4; and from December 28 through January 1.

SDCL: 34-37-16.1. Period during which discharge of fireworks permitted -- Violation as misdemeanor. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it is unlawful for a person to discharge fireworks in this state except during the period beginning June twenty-seventh and extending through the end of the first Sunday after July fourth and during the period beginning December twenty-eighth and extending through January first. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

County Commissioners may only prohibit the discharge of fireworks by resolution. SDCL 34-37-19 allows the County Commissioners to regulate fireworks from June 20 through July 2; and from December 28 through January 1 by resolution if the grassland fire danger index reaches the extreme category.


SOUTH DAKOTA GRASSLAND FIRE DANGER MAP: https://www.weather.gov/unr/rfd