



Fire officials from across the Washington Metropolitan Region are encouraging people to attend professionally supervised displays, either on the National Mall in Washington or at a number of shows at counties, cities, towns, parks and other venues in the region.

In Montgomery County, all fireworks are illegal to possess or discharge including gold label sparklers. Snap-and-pop noise makers, snakes, and party poppers are the only exception to this law.

Some jurisdictions allow a variety of fireworks regulated by the federal [Consumer Product Safety Commission](#). Legal devices in many of the surrounding jurisdictions include cones, sparklers, sparkling devices and novelties. Illegal fireworks include Roman candles, skyrockets, aerial shells with mortars, and firecrackers (Check with your locality).

Some interesting statistics:

- In 2010, U.S. hospital emergency rooms saw an estimated 8,800 people for fireworks-related injuries. (Source: CPSC's NEISS)
- Half (52 percent) of the 2010 fireworks injuries were burns, while one-fifth (21 percent) were contusions and lacerations.
- Two of five (39 percent) people injured by fireworks were under the age of 15.
- Males accounted for 65 percent of the injuries.
- The risk of fireworks injury was highest for children ages 5-14 with more than twice the risk for the general population.
- Sparklers, fountains and novelties alone accounted for 43 percent of the emergency room fireworks injuries in 2010.

###