

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 27, 2024

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RING IN THE NEW YEAR SAFELY, FOLLOW FIREWORK SAFETY TIPS

More than \$204 million in property losses reported so far in 2024 because of fires.

JACKSON, Miss. – Fireworks caused nearly 10,000 injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments during 2023, according to a [report from the Consumer Product Safety Commission](#). The majority of those injuries were burns to the hands and fingers with firecrackers causing 800 injuries.

“Children are especially at risk for firework injury. Teach your child not to point or throw fireworks at people, animals, or buildings,” State Fire Marshal and Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney said. “Show children how to put fireworks in buckets of water and dispose of them properly.”

You should also use fireworks safely to prevent fires and reduce property loss. As of December 1, 2024, over 19,000 fires statewide have resulted in more than \$204 million in property and content losses.

The Mississippi State Fire Marshal recommends these additional safety tips:

- Observe local laws.
 - Those wishing to purchase and use fireworks should first check with their fire protection officials to make sure that local laws are being followed.
 - Some municipalities prohibit fireworks from being used within city limits.
- Use common sense: always read and follow the directions on each firework.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Buy from reliable fireworks sellers. Store them in a cool, dry place.
- Always have an adult present when shooting fireworks.
- Put used fireworks in a bucket of water and have a hose ready.
- Only use fireworks outdoors, away from homes, dry grass, and trees.
- Light only one item at a time and keep a safe distance.
- Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks.
- Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- Never give fireworks to small children.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.

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