Labor Management Safety Committee (LMSC) - July 2, 2010 Safety Message

Fireworks Safety

July is the highlight of summer, and summer means picnics, parades, barbeques and fireworks – especially around the 4th of July. Each year, there are thousands of people who are treated in emergency rooms for fireworks related injuries – of those about 40% are under the age of 16.

The National Safety Council advises that the best way to safely enjoy the 4th of July is to watch a public fireworks display conducted by trained professionals. If watching fireworks nearby, you may wish to have earplugs available for small children as their ears can be damaged by the loud explosions of professional fireworks displays.

If fireworks are legal where you live, and you decided to use them, be sure to follow these important safety tips:

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks.
- Older children should only use fireworks under close adult supervision.
- Light fireworks outdoors ONLY!
- Light fireworks in a clear area clear of obstructions, people, houses and flammable materials.
- Have a bucket of water nearby or a fully charged hose nearby in the event of sparks or fire.
- Light only one device at a time.
- Maintain a safe distance from the fireworks after lighting them.
- Do not allow any horseplay or running in the area where the fireworks are being used.
- Keep pets out of the area where fireworks are being used. Some pets will have nervous reactions to the sound and sight of fireworks and they could be injured.
- Never light devices in a container of any kind.
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks douse them in a bucket of water and discard them.
- Do not alter fireworks.
- Remember that sparklers get very hot and that the 'sparks' can get on clothing or in someones' eyes. Handle sparklers in the same safe manner as other types of fireworks.





Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July! Remember Safety is No Accident!