



Town of Erin Fire & Emergency Services

For Immediate Release
May 18, 2018

MEDIA ADVISORY-FIREWORKS SAFETY

Town of Erin - To minimize the risk of fire and burn injury, the Town of Erin Fire and Emergency Services does not recommend family fireworks or informal neighborhood displays. The fire service recommends attending professional public fireworks displays either hosted by a municipality or other responsible organization.

If you still choose to have a family fireworks or an informal neighborhood display, check with the Town of Erin Fire and Emergency Services about regulations regarding fireworks. Here are some important safety tips to be followed:

- Appoint a responsible person to be in charge. Only adults who are aware of the hazards and essential safety precautions should handle and discharge fireworks.
- Carefully read and follow the label directions on fireworks packaging.
- Always keep a water hose or pail of water close by when discharging fireworks.
- Discharge fireworks well away from combustible materials like buildings, trees and dry grass.
- Keep onlookers a safe distance away, upwind from the area where fireworks are discharged.
- Light only one firework at a time and only when they are on the ground. Never try to light a firework in your hand or re-light dud fireworks. For dud

fireworks, it is best to wait 30 minutes and soak them in a bucket of water. Dispose of them in a metal container.

- Discharge fireworks only if wind conditions do not create a safety hazard.
- Keep sparklers away from children. Sparklers burn extremely hot and can ignite clothing, cause blindness and result in severe burns. As the sparkler wire remains hot for some minutes after burnout, it should be immediately soaked in water to avoid injury.
- If someone gets burned, run cool water over the wound for three to five minutes and seek medical attention, if necessary.

Fire Chief Jim Sawkins wants to remind residents of the Town of Erin that “Fireworks are dangerous and unpredictable, especially in the hands of amateurs”. Wooded areas, homes, and even automobiles have become engulfed in flames because of fireworks. Water boils at 212°F, wood burns at 574°F and sparklers burn at 1200 °F. Public firework displays conducted by trained professionals is your best choice for fireworks this long weekend.

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For more information visit www.erin.ca