



City of Monterey Park News Release

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Monterey Park Fire Department: Celebrate the 4th of July Safely, Legally and Responsibly

City prohibits the sales of all fireworks, including "Safe and Sane," for the 2020 holiday

Monterey Park, Calif. - June 23, 2020 - The City of Monterey Park wishes residents, businesses, visitors and their families a happy and safe Fourth of July holiday. During this time of uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City shares the feeling that holiday celebrations are a way to relieve stress and bring a bit of normalcy to daily lives. We deeply regret that, due to the coronavirus emergency, the City has canceled the annual [4th of July celebration event and fireworks display](#).

With the demands of COVID-19 on our community's health and safety services in mind, the City has also made the decision to prohibit the sales of Safe and Sane fireworks within the City for the 2020 season.

Although fireworks will not be available for sale in Monterey Park, residents are still allowed to utilize Safe and Sane fireworks on July 4 from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Firework use outside of July 4 from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. is illegal. To report illegal fireworks, please contact non-emergency Police dispatch at 626-573-1311 and provide as much information as possible regarding the location of where the fireworks are coming from.

IMPORTANT: Please do not use the GoMPK app to report illegal use of fireworks.

The safety and security of the Monterey Park community continues to be the City's highest priority and we appreciate the community's cooperation during this time and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. We also appreciate the support and understanding from the local organizations that have operated firework booths in the past and look forward to working together to allow fireworks booths next year.

With this patriotic holiday approaching quickly, it's a crucial moment to be reminded to celebrate responsibly, especially when it comes to using fireworks. Each year, injuries to children and adults are attributed to the misuse of fireworks. With the cancellation of public firework displays and event, families will be celebrating at home and below are safety tips and reminders when it comes to buying, using or enjoying fireworks.

Purchase and Use Only "Safe & Sane" Fireworks

Safe and Sane fireworks are the only permitted products allowed in the city and only for use on July 4 from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Always purchase fireworks from approved stands and sales outlets. To verify if fireworks are Safe & Sane, look for the official seal of the California State Fire Marshal on the box or individual products.



Know Where You Can Legally Use Fireworks

For private use in Monterey Park, residents may use fireworks on their own personal property, in open yard areas, and/or within a driveway. Fireworks should never be lit near any structures or upon any overgrown or dry lawn, and should be kept away from any motor vehicles. It is important to remember that fireworks cannot be used in city parks. Fireworks used contrary to these regulations are subject to immediate confiscation by authorities.

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Know the Law and Fines Regarding Fireworks.

Recently, the Police Department has experienced an increase in calls for illegal use of fireworks. Please remember to only use Safe and Sane fireworks on July 4 from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fines have been increased to \$2,000 and \$5,000 per occurrence. Chapter 5.48 of the Monterey Park Municipal Code (MPMC) regulates the sale, use, discharge, and storage of safe and sane fireworks and prohibits the sale, use, discharge and storage of dangerous fireworks. The fines for all violations of Chapter 5.48 relating to fireworks are \$2,000. The unpermitted sale of Safe and Sane fireworks and sale of illegal fireworks is \$5,000. In addition to fine, a citee is liable and responsible for the payment of actual costs associated with the collection, transportation, and disposal of any seized fireworks.

Children Should Not Handle Fireworks

Watching fireworks is especially exciting for young children. While watching from a distance usually poses no safety threat, allowing children to light or handle fireworks is a dangerous practice. A responsible adult should supervise all fireworks activities. Never give fireworks to young children.

Follow Lighting and Safety Instructions Exactly

Each Safe and Sane item will have directions for use. Follow these exactly as stated, and do not attempt to take apart a firework or re-light a "dud." Malfunctioning fireworks, or those you are unsure of, should be disposed of in a nearby bucket of water. Water should be kept on hand for emergencies.

For more information, please contact the [Monterey Park Fire Department](#) at 626-307-1308.

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