



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service
Sheriff Pat Garrett

PRESS RELEASE

Sheriff's Office Promotes a Safe July 4th Holiday Weekend

July, 1, 2015—Washington County Sheriff's Office would like everyone to have a safe and enjoyable 4th of July holiday.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office asks everyone to be safe and considerate when celebrating the 4th of July. In addition to extra patrols focused on impaired drivers over the holiday weekend, deputies will be prepared to enforce laws related to illegal fireworks. Using or possessing illegal fireworks is a Class C Misdemeanor.

Every year Washington County Sheriff's Deputies respond to complaints of holiday gatherings and other celebrations that get out of hand due to intoxication and illegal fireworks. These complaints include physical injury, property damage and neighborhood disturbances. Pets and small children are also affected by loud noises from illegal fireworks that are often used late into the night. Citizens should also consider that damage or injury caused by a careless act involving fireworks can bring significant civil liability. Fire danger will be especially high during this unusually dry weather we have been experiencing.

Fire Marshals with Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R) will ride with Sheriff's Deputies during the holiday. TVF&R is another agency kept very busy with fire and medical calls on the 4th of July.

Oregon law bans possession, use, or sale of fireworks that fly, explode, or travel more than 6 feet on the ground or 12 inches into the air. Fireworks commonly called bottle rockets, roman candles, and firecrackers are illegal in Oregon. The Oregon State Fire Marshal's provides information on legal and illegal fireworks (see attachment).

Please remember to be safe, legal and considerate while celebrating Independence Day.

Fireworks Examples (Partial List)

Legal Fireworks

These produce only smoke, sparks or fire.

Examples are base fountains, cone fountains, wheels, and ground bloom flowers.



Unclassified Novelties Items (Not Fireworks)



Illegal Fireworks

These explode, eject balls of fire, fly into the air, or travel more than six feet on the ground or 12 inches into the air.



Illegal Explosive Devices

