



Press Release

Press release from **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service** and **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Authority**
Making Derbyshire Safer

1 NOVEMBER 2018

BONFIRE NIGHT FIRE SAFETY ADVICE

Bonfire Night can be a spectacularly colourful evening, but if safety advice is not followed, fun celebrations can soon turn to disaster.

Whilst Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service recommends that people should consider attending an organised bonfire event, many people still choose to hold their own private bonfire party at home. A few simple precautionary safety measures can help ensure that everyone stays safe and can enjoy the celebrations without injury or harm.

During Bonfire Night you should:

- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box and take them out one at a time.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions on each firework. Read the instructions by torch light and not a naked flame and always buy fireworks from a reputable source.
- Light fireworks at arm's length using a safety firework lighter or fuse wick - Stand back after lighting.
- **NEVER** go back to a firework once lit, it still has the potential to go off.
- Collect used fireworks with care, douse with water and bury them or place in a metal container.
- Keep children and pets away from fireworks and bonfires.
- Keep pets indoors.
- Take care with sparklers – young children should not handle these.

email: enquiries@derbys-fire.gov.uk
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Terry McDermott MA
Chief Fire Officer / Chief Executive



- **NEVER** throw fireworks.
- **NEVER** keep fireworks in your pocket.
- Keep a bucket of water handy.

If you must light a bonfire, follow these safety tips:

- Site the bonfire well away from houses, garages, sheds, fences, overhead cables, trees, shrubs and well away from your fireworks
- Before lighting, make sure there are no animals hiding inside.
- Be careful when building the bonfire so it does not collapse once lit.
- Don't burn foam filled furniture, aerosols, tins of paint, or bottles.
- **NEVER** use flammable liquids such as paraffin or petrol to light the fire.
- Keep children and pets away from the fire.
- In case of emergency, keep buckets of water, a garden hose or a fire extinguisher ready.
- When the party is over, pour water on the embers before leaving.

Group Manager Rob Taylor said: "Private bonfire parties and firework displays have the potential to be great fun if safety is kept in mind. However, a stray firework, or an out of control bonfire can soon lead to disaster.

"There are numerous organised displays to choose from, and I would recommend that anyone who wants to enjoy a safe hassle free Bonfire Night attend one of these, where they can relax and enjoy the spectacle safely and without risk.

"If you are still planning on having a private bonfire party, I would strongly advise that you follow our bonfire safety tips to ensure the safety of you, your guests and your property."

For more information about keeping safe visit www.derbyshire-fire.gov.uk

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