



**Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service**

Protecting Our Community

COMMUNITY INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 28

FIREWORKS

Firework Safety Code

All fireworks intended to be sold to the public must be 'CE' marked showing that they meet EU requirements set out in Directive 2013/29/EU, and are clearly marked for their intended use "Indoor, Garden or Display":

- Keep fireworks in a sealed box or tin;
- Only use them one at a time, replacing the lid immediately;
- Read the instructions carefully, using a torch or hand lamp; NEVER use a naked flame;
- Light fireworks at arm's length using a taper or a firework lighter;
- Stand well back and NEVER return to a firework after it has been lit as it could explode in your face;
- NEVER put fireworks in your pocket;
- Always supervise children around fireworks;
- NEVER throw fireworks;
- Keep all pets and animals indoors; and
- Don't set off noisy fireworks late at night and never after 11:00pm.

Sparklers

These are often viewed as being harmless but they do burn at fierce temperatures. To a young child, the heat from a sparkler is equivalent to the heat from a welding torch:

- Never give sparklers to children under five years old;
- Always wear gloves with sparklers, preferably leather ones;
- Ensure children hold sparklers at arm's length and an adult lights it for them;
- Never wave sparklers near someone else as you could burn them; and
- When the sparkler has finished, put it into a bucket of cold water straight away and leave it there.

What you need to know when buying fireworks

- Category F1 – fireworks which present a very low hazard and negligible noise level and which are intended for use in confined areas, including fireworks which are intended for use inside domestic buildings (ie, indoor fireworks).
- Category F2 – fireworks which present a low hazard and low noise level and which are intended for outdoor use in confined areas (ie, garden fireworks).
- Category F3 – fireworks which present a medium hazard, which are intended for outdoor use in large open areas and whose noise level is not harmful to human health (ie, display fireworks for open areas such as fields).
- Category F4 – fireworks which present a high hazard, which are intended for use only by persons with specialist knowledge and whose noise level is not harmful to human health (ie, professional fireworks for large open spaces).

For further information phone NIFRS HQ 028 9266 4221 or visit:

www.saferfireworks.com

www.nidirect.gov.uk

www.nifrs.org

