



Fire Safe Attitudes Make Happy Summer Memories!

Do You Have A Fire Safe Attitude?

Nothing puts a damper on your favorite summertime activity like a fire or an injury. Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue urges you to follow these safety tips and adopt a fire safe attitude so that your activities are remembered only for the fun!

MATCHES AND LIGHTERS: *Tools for grown-ups - not toys for kids!*

- ✓ Always keep matches and lighters out of the sight and reach of children. Discourage your children from picking them up and encourage them to tell an adult if found.



SMOKING MATERIALS: *Use the ashtray - not the roadway!*

During the summer months, TVF&R experiences a sharp increase in brush fires that start from discarded cigarette butts tossed into roadside shrubbery or barkdust.

- ✓ Extinguish and discard cigarette butts in an appropriate metal container or ashtray.

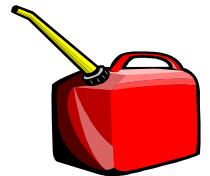


BARBECUE SAFETY: *Fire up the grill - not the patio!*

- ✓ Read the Owner's Manual prior to operating a gas grill.
- ✓ Open the lid while igniting gas barbecue burners or wait five (5) minutes to allow the gas to clear if the barbecue does not light. Explosive flame-up may occur if you fail to do so.
- ✓ Never leave your barbecue unattended, especially when children are around. Always have a hose, bucket of water, or fire extinguisher nearby in case of fire.
- ✓ Keep clothing, towels, and hot pads away from flames. Use long-handled barbecuing utensils.
- ✓ Use charcoal lighter fluid sparingly and with caution. Never squirt "just a little more" once the fire is lit (even if it is just smoking) as the fire can shoot back up along the stream and explode the container in your face and hands.
- ✓ Always discard spent briquettes and warm ashes in a METAL can far away from combustibles (such as the deck or siding). Briquettes can stay hot and burn through paper bags or plastic buckets for hours after a fire is extinguished. It's safest to wait one full day before removing used briquettes from the barbecue.
- ✓ Store unused briquettes in a dry place away from potential ignition sources and combustible materials.
- ✓ At every change of propane tanks/bottles, check the fittings to ensure proper seal and fit.

GASOLINE SAFETY: *Fuel for equipment - fuel for a fire!*

- ✓ Never smoke or strike a match or lighter while fueling a chain saw, garden tractor, lawnmower, and other gasoline engines. The invisible vapors are considered dangerous and explosive.
- ✓ When refueling your lawnmower or other gasoline-powered yard equipment, always turn off the engine to avoid stray sparks.
- ✓ Pour gasoline very carefully. If you spill gasoline, wipe it up immediately and let the saturated rag air out thoroughly.
- ✓ Keep gasoline in an approved container with a tight fitting lid to keep the vapors inside.
- ✓ Store gasoline containers out of the reach of children and away from potential ignition sources.
- ✓ Never store or use gasoline in an enclosed area or in the presence of pilot lights.



Summer Fire Safety

Summer Fire Safety, continued

WOOD REFINISHING & STAINING PRODUCTS: *Use caution!*

Refinishing products containing linseed and other oils generate their own heat. Wadded-up or folded rags can spontaneously ignite.

- ✓ Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- ✓ Lay rags flat to dry on a non-combustible surface or place them in a METAL container partially filled with water and cover with a tight fitting METAL lid.



FIREWORKS SAFETY: *Don't let a tragedy turn your celebration into a dud!*

Is It Legal?

Fireworks that explode, fly into the air, travel more than 12 feet on smooth ground, or behave in an uncontrolled and/or unpredictable manner are illegal in Oregon. Anyone who violates Oregon's Fireworks Statutes can be fined up to \$500 by the Office of the Oregon State Fire Marshal.

Is It Safe?

There is a common misconception that "legal" fireworks are safer than "illegal" fireworks. Even legal fireworks are dangerous and have caused serious burns and injuries to people, especially to unsupervised children. Sparklers, which are legal in Oregon and mistakenly believed to be safer than most fireworks, can burn at temperatures far exceeding 1000 degrees!



- ✓ Store fireworks, lighters, and matches out of the sight and reach of children.
- ✓ Only adults should light or handle fireworks and children and teens should be supervised at all times when fireworks are being used around them.
- ✓ Fireworks should only be used outdoors on a paved surface, far away from buildings, cars, and shrubs.
- ✓ Have a bucket of water or hose nearby to extinguish misfired and spent fireworks or to extinguish fires.
- ✓ Dispose of used fireworks in metal containers or douse them with water. It only takes one stray spark from a firework to ignite a roof, barkdust, shrubs, or tall grass/weeds - especially during dry summer conditions. A brush fire can quickly spread to nearby decks, fences, or siding on houses.
- ✓ Never aim fireworks at buildings, cars, people, or pets!
- ✓ Never alter fireworks or make your own - homemade explosives can be deadly!
- ✓ Never pick up or try to re-light a "dud."

The best and safest plan is to attend a professional fireworks display and eliminate the risk altogether!

For additional fire safety information visit our web site at www.tvfr.com or contact your Division Office:

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Serving the cities and communities of Aloha, Beaverton, Skyline, Tigard, and surrounding areas of unincorporated Multnomah and Washington counties.



We're Your Fire Department

SOUTH DIVISION

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