



## Kingman County Commission

Fred Foley, County Commissioner District #1  
Carol F. Voran, County Commissioner District #2  
John Steffen, County Commissioner District #3

Kingman County Courthouse, 130 N. Spruce, Kingman KS 67068  
Office of the County Clerk: Phone: 620-532-2521 / Fax: 620-532-5082

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 27, 2014**

For more information, contact Nancy D. Borst, 620-532-2037 / [nborst@kingmancoks.com](mailto:nborst@kingmancoks.com)

### Fireworks safety tips from Kingman County

The July 4 holiday is here and local officials want to remind Kingman County residents to stay safe when using fireworks.

Norwich Fire Chief Tab Turner said local residents actually have done a good job of observing safety precautions in recent years. But he emphasized the need to be aware of one's surroundings when using fireworks.

"This year especially, there's all that stubble out there," he said of post wheat harvest conditions. Farmers may not be able to work stubble into the ground before the holiday due to wet weather. Rural residents who live near fields need to be extra careful for that reason, he said.

With proper precautions, everyone can enjoy the July 4 holiday safely, said Kingman County Emergency Manager Fred Simon. He offered these fireworks safety tips.

- Always read and follow label instructions.
- Always purchase high quality fireworks from a reliable, legitimate source.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a "designated shooter."
- Never give fireworks to small children.
- Adults should always supervise use of fireworks by older children.
- Always wear eye protection when lighting fireworks.
- Never ignite fireworks indoors. Make sure your outdoor area is safe for firework use.
- Never point or throw fireworks at a person, building, or animal.
- Have a source of water handy, in case of fire (bucket and hose).
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- Never attempt to re-light malfunctioning fireworks (wait 15-20 minutes, then soak them in a bucket of water).
- When lighting fireworks, never position any part of your body over them.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.
- Never experiment with homemade fireworks. They are dangerous and illegal.
- Bottle rockets and other skyrockets that are mounted on a stick or wire are illegal.
- It is illegal to shoot fireworks on or under a vehicle, on any public roadway, within 50 feet of a firework stand or where fireworks are stored, and gas stations or any place liquid gas – including propane – is stored.
- Parents of young children should remember that sparklers burn at 1,200 degrees and can cause serious burns in an instant of contact, according to the National Fire Protection Association.
- Dispose of fireworks properly after use by soaking them in water and then disposing of them in a trash can.

###