

## Firework Safety

Many Americans enjoy the 4th of July by setting off firecrackers, bottle rockets and sparklers. However, the celebration can quickly turn into tragedy. Every year, thousands of firework-related injuries are treated in hospital emergency departments in the United States. Help protect your family from injury by following some safety tips.

### Firework-Related Injury Facts

- Fireworks that cause the most injuries are firecrackers, sparklers and bottle rockets.
- Injuries usually occur to the hands, eyes and legs.
- Burns are the most common injury overall.
- In addition to blindness, third degree burns and permanent scarring, fireworks also cause life-threatening home and motor vehicle fires.

### Information for Parents

- Do not buy fireworks to use at home.
- The best way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display by trained professionals.
- Never allow children to play with fireworks, including sparklers.
- Even though some parents consider sparklers to be "safe fireworks," they can reach temperatures of 2000 degrees and easily ignite clothing.
- Firework-related injuries often happen when an adult is present. Supervision alone is not enough to prevent serious injuries.
- Injuries also occur to bystanders. Even if you do not allow your children to touch fireworks, they can still be seriously injured if they are around others who are using fireworks.
- Teach your children the dangers of fireworks.

How **hot** is a burning sparkler?

