

## **“LEAVE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS”**

“Playing with fireworks invites disaster, and without a license, it’s against the law.” So says Fair Lawn Fire Marshal Jay Bender. “It simply is just not worth the risks of injury or penalty. In New Jersey, it is illegal to possess or use fireworks without the necessary Permits; that includes, firecrackers, roman candles, rockets, sky lanterns, etc.”

Instead, when celebrating the Fourth of July, residents are urged to attend fireworks displays put on by trained professionals who follow nationally recognized codes and standards for safety.

The National Fire Protection Association reports 8 fatalities, 17,800 fires, 8,700 serious injuries and \$32 million in property damage due to illegal fireworks during 2013.

Because of fireworks’ unpredictability, innocent bystanders are often victimized. And flying rockets are quite capable of igniting a nearby house or flammable liquid. Even seemingly safe sparklers pose a hazard as they heat up to 1200°F and send hot cinders flying out of control.

For further information on fire safety, contact Fire Marshal Jay Bender at 201-794-5408 or [FireMarshal@FairLawn.org](mailto:FireMarshal@FairLawn.org)