



Press Release

Wednesday, July 2, 2008
9:00 AM

ALL FIREWORKS ILLEGAL IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

Willits – CalFire and Mendocino Unit Chief Marc Romero, along with Mendocino County Fire Chief's Association President, Tom Hession, and the Mendocino County Law Enforcement Administrators Association, are reminding citizens that fireworks of any type are illegal in Mendocino County. Anyone possessing, transporting or using fireworks in Mendocino County is in violation of the law, and is at risk of criminal prosecution.

The ongoing Mendocino Lightning Complex fires have strapped many of the County and State resources. The public is asked to remain aware that additional fires could affect current firefighting operations.

Fireworks are inherently dangerous and can quickly change a safe and happy Fourth of July holiday into a sad and costly one. Many serious injuries occur nationwide due to the careless handling of fireworks. Unfortunately, children are at the greatest risk of injury, and parents are responsible both physically and financially for their children's actions; including the cost for fire suppression caused by illegal and/or negligent actions (Health and Safety Code 13009). In addition, Civil Code section 1714.1 holds parents and/ or guardians responsible for medical costs and damages for "any willful acts of minors which result in injury or death to another person or damage to another person's property".

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to prevent additional unwanted wildland fires. Have a safe Fourth of July weekend.

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