

**ROBERT D. SPODEN**  
**ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF**

**BARBARA J. TILLMAN**  
**CHIEF DEPUTY**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**Fourth of July Weekend and use of Fireworks**

**For Immediate Release**

July 27, 2012

**Contact Person**

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With the Fourth of July Holiday closely approaching and the unusually dry weather affecting the area, the Rock County Sheriff's Office would like to take this opportunity to remind people that the use of certain fireworks is illegal and the overall use of fireworks is NOT recommended. The following fireworks are LEGAL to use in Wisconsin without a permit:

- Sparklers, not to exceed 36 inches
- Stationary cones and fountains
- Toy snakes, smoke bombs, caps, noise makers
- Confetti poppers with less than ¼ grain of explosive mixture
- Novelty devices that spin or move on the ground

If not described above, the firework is illegal to not only discharge but also possess within the State of Wisconsin without a permit.

If the use of legal fireworks is still planned, a few precautions are recommended:

- Choose an open area away from people, homes and dry vegetation. It is strongly recommended to wet down the area with water prior to letting off the fireworks.
- After each firework burns out, soak it with a hose or bucket of water.
- When finished, place all used fireworks in a covered, fireproof container. Leave the container outside and away from homes and buildings.

Using fireworks to celebrate our Nation's birthday is as traditional as parades and cookouts. That being said, with the dry conditions it is not recommended fireworks be used. If used, certain precautions should be taken with the use of legal fireworks to avoid unwanted damage and fires.

ROBERT D. SPODEN  
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