



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PRESS RELEASE

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COUNTY LAUNCHES FIREWORKS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The County of Santa Cruz wishes to remind residents and visitors that illegal fireworks can be a threat to public safety and harmful to the environment, vulnerable residents and pets. Fines of up to \$1,000 are in effect for duration the 4th of July holiday weekend.

Fireworks are illegal throughout most of Santa Cruz County, including all beaches. With an early start to California's fire season, fireworks can significantly elevate the threat of wildfires. The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office plans enhanced patrols throughout the holiday weekend, and the County is running social media ads from San Francisco to Monterey to remind people of the threat posed by illegal fireworks.

The following are reminders to help residents and visitors enjoy a successful 4th of July holiday and avoid fines:

- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on County beaches or in public outside commercial establishments or residences.
- If you see what looks like a homemade explosive, stay back, call 911, and wait for law enforcement.
- Pack your trash! We don't want garbage on our beaches.
- If your pet is distressed by loud noises, exercise them before nightfall and keep them indoors in a sheltered, quiet area. You may consult a veterinarian for additional measures to alleviate your pet's anxiety.
- Have fun! Enjoy time with friends and family, but leave the explosives at home.

For more information, please visit <https://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Fireworks.aspx>