

DEE MARGO  
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ  
CITY MANAGER



**CITY COUNCIL**

PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1  
ALEXANDRA ANNELLO DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3  
DR. SAM MORGAN, DISTRICT 4  
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5  
CLAUDIA ORDAZ PEREZ, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CISSY LIZARRAGA, DISTRICT 8

**June 26, 2019**

**Public Service Announcement**

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Safety

**EL PASO, Texas** – As we celebrate Independence Day, one of the leading causes of medical emergencies is fireworks. Children often receive burns on the hands and face by playing with fireworks. Often thought of as safe, even sparklers, can reach temperatures of up to 1,200 degrees.

Additionally, the Fourth of July presents the most significant fire danger compared to other holidays. Nationwide, fire departments respond to more fires and severe burn injuries than any other day of the year.

However, it is possible to celebrate and enjoy the holiday in a safe manner. The El Paso Fire Department recommends these safety tips during the Independence Day holiday:

- Avoid the use fireworks of any kind. They can cause serious burn injuries.
- Be careful with all fire activities (cooking, grilling, etc.)
- Check local postings for a list of firework displays planned for the 4th of July and attend those instead of using consumer fireworks.
- Keep a close eye on children at events where fireworks are in use.
- Stay away from firework debris after the show as it may still be active.
- Fireworks can be especially frightening to pets, especially dogs. Keep them safe. We recommend not to take your pets to firework displays.
- During the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations, many frightened pets escape their homes. Make sure your pets have a microchip and that the information is up to date. If you see a lost pet, take it to any EPFD Station and have it scanned so you can reconnect them with their owners.

The El Paso Fire Department would like to remind the public that the use of fireworks inside the City of El Paso is illegal and extremely dangerous. Residents caught using fireworks inside of the city limits can be issued a citation and fines as high as \$2,000.

For more safety tips and updates, residents are encouraged to visit [epfire.org](http://epfire.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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**Media Contact:** Enrique D. Aguilar  
Fire Public Information Officer  
(915) 317-8943

*Promote Transparent and Consistent Communication Among All Members of the Community*

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