

RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

FIREWORKS SAFETY

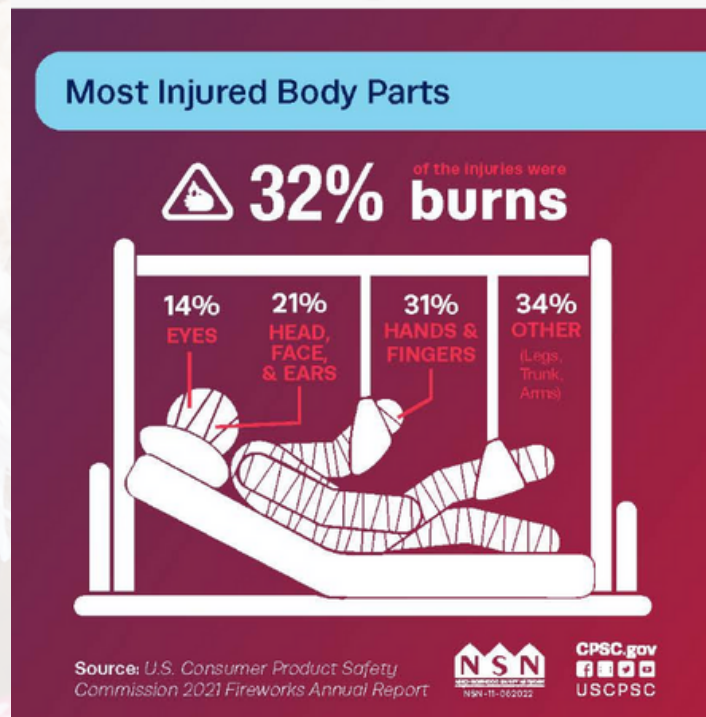
A hand with red-painted fingernails holds a lit sparkler. The background is a dark night sky filled with various colorful fireworks, including purple, blue, and orange bursts. The overall theme is festive yet emphasizes safety.

GROWING AS A CHURCH WITH A REDEMPITIVE PURPOSE

FIREWORKS SAFETY

What would New Year's Eve be without fireworks to help add sparkle to the night's festivities? In order to help keep this holiday and the beginning of the new year enjoyable and safe, remember that fireworks need to be handled with care by adult experts who have proper training and experience handling these types of explosives. Many people consider fireworks to be harmless fun, when in fact they can be extremely dangerous, especially when used near children and teens.

Every New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, an average of 200 people end up in the ER with fireworks-related injuries, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Most of these injuries are burns, and a large percentage of these incidents involve people's hands and fingers. Viewing public fireworks displays handled by professionals is the safest way to enjoy fireworks; even then, it's important to keep a safe distance away.



FIREWORKS SAFETY

DO

- Anyone using fireworks should be supervised by an experienced adult.
- Only buy fireworks from reputable dealers.
- Be sure to read fireworks labels and follow directions carefully.
- Keep a fire extinguisher or bucket of water nearby.
- Light fireworks one at a time.
- Discard fireworks as directed.



DON'T

- Young children should never use fireworks, including sparklers. Although sparklers may seem safe, they carry hazards as well. A sparkler can burn at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, which is as hot as a blowtorch.
- Don't consume alcohol when using fireworks. Have a "designated" person-- who is not drinking--light the fireworks.
- Never light fireworks inside or near other objects.
- Do not stand over fireworks while lighting them, and back up immediately after lighting them.
- Never point fireworks toward people/homes/other objects.
- Never try to relight fireworks that fail to ignite.
- Do not wear loose clothing while using fireworks.
- Fireworks should never be set off in glass or metal containers.
- Do not ever use homemade fireworks or illegal explosives. They can kill you!
- Never carry fireworks in your pockets.
- Soak all fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them away because they may still be ignited.

FIREWORKS SAFETY

In case of injury, seek immediate medical care. For additional fireworks safety tips, visit the Consumer Product Safety Commission's website: Search | CPSC.gov

Enjoy your holidays with your family, and take precautions when lighting fireworks at home!

REFERENCES:

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