



## 4th of July 2022 Strategic Message

Fire Chief Charles Damron

- West Benton Fire Rescue remains ready to serve our Citizens. However, we do have a limit number of resources to protect our 176 square mile response area.
- Fireworks are illegal in the City of Prosser. Even the possession of fireworks within city limits carries a penalty of fines and jail time. See the PMC Prosser Municipal Code for more details.
- Fireworks are legal in Benton County. However, restrictions apply to the type of fireworks allowed. If it goes in the air, it is illegal. If it moves and shoots sparks it is illegal. Refer to this year's 2022 press release link for a list of acceptable times and types of firework information: [Fireworks laws and Regulations for Tri-Cities in 2022](#)
- Firefighters and Fire Trucks are a limited resource. There is a chance that crews can become overwhelmed if citizens do not follow the established laws, and or use fireworks in an unsafe manner. If crews become overwhelmed, there is a chance that fires will grow unchecked, causing danger to life and property.
- The 4th of July can be celebrated in numerous ways. NFPA National Fire Protection Association has some good suggestions to make sure that we celebrate our Independence Day safely! Select the link to Check out the NFPA flyer. [NFPA Grilling Safety Tips.](#)
- 36% of injuries that occur due to fireworks are to children under the age of 15! Sparklers, which can burn at 1200 degrees account for 25% of those injuries. Red, White, and Blue glowsticks are a fantastic alternative for the kiddos!