



## > JOIN SCOTLAND'S FIGHT AGAINST FIRE

Be safe this year and attend an organised display.

## > SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY GROUPS

Are you a teacher, youth worker or do you run a local community group?

If so, you can help the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to reduce the risk of injury to our children and young people by raising their awareness of the serious dangers associated with fireworks and bonfires.

The UK Government website address [www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-firework-safety-guide-to-working-with-local-media](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-firework-safety-guide-to-working-with-local-media) provides a range of resources to support you to deliver key safety messages.

For further information please contact your local Community Fire Station.

## > CONTACT US

Visit [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk) for practical fire safety advice. Or talk to your local firefighters. You'll find contact details on the website, in your local library and in the phone book.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format or a version in another language, please contact **0800 0731 999**.

**TO BOOK A FREE HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT**  
Call **0800 0731 999**  
or visit [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk)

Bonfires and fireworks produce large volumes of carbon emissions and other harmful gases. Please protect the environment and attend an organised display.



SCOTTISH  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

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## Fact.

Scotland's fire crews **are up to four times busier** than usual on November 5th, wasting time and resources attending unsafe bonfires.



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## > WARNING! FIRE AND ALCOHOL DON'T MIX!

Do not go near bonfires or fireworks whilst under the influence of alcohol.

Some individuals may be tempted to ignore local by-laws and drink alcohol in public places. This could lead to Police issuing a fixed penalty ticket or a report being sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

## > BONFIRES AND THE LAW

It is an offence under Section 56 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 for any person to lay or light a fire in a public place so as to endanger any other person or give them reasonable cause for alarm or annoyance or so as to endanger any property.

If you know anything about fires that have been started deliberately in your area, you can call the **Crimestoppers Scotland hotline on 0800 555 111**. All calls are completely anonymous and do not require names or personal details and you will not be asked to give evidence in court.

Fly tipping during the Bonfire and Fireworks season is a major cause of fire and it is also a criminal offence. If you see fly tipping or know of an area where there is a build up of refuse or combustible material, contact your local authority cleansing or environmental department to arrange uplift.

You can also contact the **Dumb Dumpers Stop Line on 0845 2 30 40 90** or visit [www.dumbdumpers.org](http://www.dumbdumpers.org) for more information.

## > BONFIRE SAFETY ADVICE

Advice from the SFRS is to attend a safely organised bonfire and firework display. However if you must have a bonfire at home make sure it is well away from buildings, vehicles, trees, hedges, fences, power lines, telecommunications equipment and sheds and you must ensure that smoke does not cause a nuisance to neighbours or flying embers endanger neighbouring property.

- Never drink alcohol if you are tending a bonfire or setting off fireworks – remember it is an offence to consume alcohol in a public place.
- To reduce the emission of harmful smoke and combustion products bonfires should comprise of untreated wood and paper based materials only.
- There is a danger of explosion from pressurised containers or sealed vessels amongst bonfire material or irresponsibly thrown on burning bonfires.
- Never throw fireworks on bonfires.
- Never use flammable liquids to ignite bonfires - use proprietary fire lighters.
- Smoke from bonfires must not pose a public nuisance, affect visibility on roads or otherwise inconvenience vehicular traffic.
- Sparks, flying embers or burning debris must not endanger nearby property.
- Never leave a burning/smouldering bonfire unsupervised – make sure it is completely extinguished.

Any bonfire failing to satisfy safety conditions or where people are behaving irresponsibly may be deemed dangerous and as such, subject to being either removed, extinguished or otherwise made safe.

## > ORGANISING A DISPLAY

Visit [www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/fireworks/using.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/fireworks/using.htm) for guidance and practical advice.

## > FIREWORKS

Watching fireworks can be great fun for children. However, figures show that, more often than not, it's children rather than adults who are injured by fireworks. Over the past five years over 350 pre-school children, some as young as one year old, were treated in hospital for firework injuries. **Be safe and always follow the fireworks code.**



For further information about fireworks and the Fireworks Code visit [www.saferfireworks.com](http://www.saferfireworks.com)

## > FIREWORKS LEGISLATION

It is an offence :

- To set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am (or after midnight on bonfire night).
- To modify, tamper with or misuse fireworks.
- To throw or set off fireworks in any highway, street, thoroughfare or public place.
- To sell fireworks to anyone under 18.
- For anyone under 18 to possess fireworks in a public place.
- For anyone other than a fireworks professional to possess display category fireworks.
- To cause unnecessary suffering to any domestic or captive animals.