



# Cedar City

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### Cedar City Fire Department Responds to 11 firework-related incidents on July 4th, 2023

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2023

**CEDAR CITY, UT** – Cedar City Fire Department responded to 11 separate firework-related incidents within 90 minutes on July 4<sup>th</sup> with more than half of the calls taking place at locations outside of the recommended areas for shooting fireworks. In anticipation of the July 24<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Day state holiday, firefighters are encouraging continued diligence from the community when using personal fireworks to avoid catastrophic incidents and injuries.

“We want everyone to be safe and use proper methods to completely extinguish fireworks after they have been spent,” stated Cedar City Fire Department’s Deputy Fire Marshal, Greg Orloski. “Using the designated areas in Cedar City listed on our map is our preference, and then soaking the spent fireworks in a bucket of water for at least 30 minutes before throwing them in the garbage is crucial to avoid it from reigniting and causing a fire.”

With stretched resources during firework discharge times and plenty of grass and brush to catch fire, firefighters shared that many of the firework-related calls had the potential to grow into a bigger issue and could have been avoided. One firework-related incident on July 2<sup>nd</sup> during the permitted discharge time quickly burned 2 acres of residential property along with a camping trailer and two vehicles.

Although fireworks are legal in areas of Cedar City, the Cedar City Fire Department greatly discourages personal firework use as it can be life-threatening in a variety of ways. Any liability or repercussions that come with accidentally igniting structures, vegetation, etc. will belong to the person who was using the fireworks.

“Our advice is to leave it to the professionals or use a designated location in Cedar City if you choose to use personal fireworks,” shared Orloski. “The safest way to enjoy fireworks and celebrate is by viewing our professional firework show which will be in Enoch on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup> around 10:00 p.m.”

### **Recommended Use Locations within Cedar City Limits (ordinance 17-18(F))**

All Classifications of fireworks that are permitted by State law may be used July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., with the exception of July 24<sup>th</sup> which includes an extended window through midnight. Recommended places to discharge fireworks include:

- the South parking lot of Cedar High School (703 W 600 S, Cedar City)
- the parking lot at the Bicentennial Softball Complex (661 W 2045 N, Cedar City)
- The street between Bicentennial Soccer Complex parking lots. (The street will be closed to traffic for the discharge dates.)
- the Iron Springs Elementary parking lot (235 N 4050 W, Cedar City)
- the Canyon View High School parking lot (166 W 1925 N, Cedar City)
- the Aquatic Center parking lot (2090 W Royal Hunte Dr, Cedar City)

At each of the recommended locations, there will be a marked dumpster provided by Cedar City to properly and safely dispose of personal fireworks. For more safety tips, firework information, and an interactive map of recommended firework discharge locations, visit [www.cedarcity.org/fireworks](http://www.cedarcity.org/fireworks).

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**About Cedar City, UT** - Cedar City encompasses nearly 35 square miles and is located 250 miles south of Salt Lake City and 52 miles north of St. George on Interstate 15, with a current population of nearly 40,000 residents. Information regarding the City and the many programs and services provided to the community can be found at [www.CedarCity.org](http://www.CedarCity.org), as well as via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.