



Perris News

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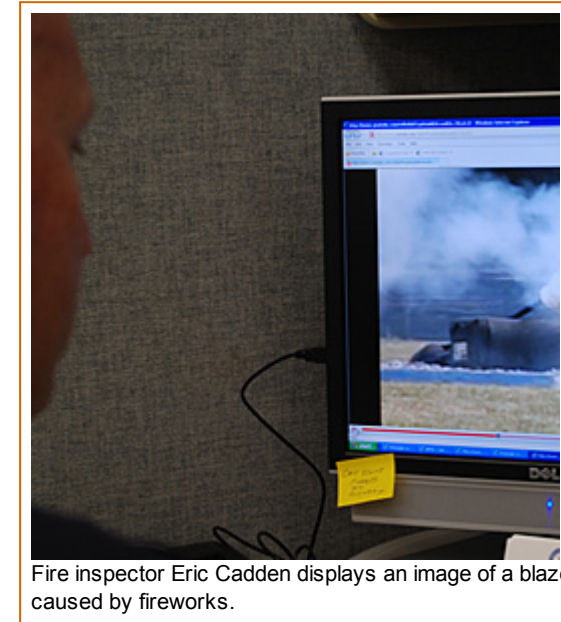
Leave Fireworks to the Pros

Perris fire officials have some simple advice about fireworks—leave them to the professionals.

The City is urging residents not to shoot off firecrackers, light sparklers or use any other kind of fireworks this July 4. Perris residents are instead invited to view a City-sponsored fireworks show at the Perris Auto Speedway that begins at 9 p.m. Saturday.

“There are no such things as safe fireworks,” said Eric Cadden, the City’s Fire Prevention Inspector. “The best way to enjoy a fireworks show is to attend one that is run and operated by professionals.”

Cadden said more fires are reported on July 4 than any other day of the year and many are fireworks-related. In 2007, emergency rooms treated more than 9,800 people for firework-related injuries. Nearly half were children under the age of 15. Sparklers, fountains and other novelties accounted for 56 percent of all injuries.



Fire inspector Eric Cadden displays an image of a blaze caused by fireworks.



City Fire Prevention Inspector Eric Cadden: Leave fireworks to the pros.

Sparklers burn at 1,200 degrees, enough to cause third-degree burns and other serious injuries, Cadden said.

Fireworks of any kind are illegal in the City of Perris and in Riverside County.

City police officers will be enforcing the ban and residents caught setting off fireworks face fines and arrest.