



# TOWN OF GILMANTON

*FIRE DEPARTMENT*

1824 NH Route 140  
Gilmanton IW, NH 03837  
Tel: (603) 364-2500  
Fax: (603) 364-2501

Fire Chief Paul J Hempel III



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Dear Gilmanton residents,

As we approach the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, and with the cancellation of our public fireworks display our agency would like to remind you to please use caution when discharging consumer fireworks.

While the State of NH has allowed the use of consumer fireworks, these devices can pose a serious hazard when used incorrectly. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is a great time to celebrate with family and friends, we would ask that you practice great care when using these. The current dry conditions also add to the threat of fire from the display. With the cancellation of our public event we do expect more consumer displays.

Please review the following safety measures:

1. Follow your local and state laws regarding the display and possession of fireworks. Make certain to read and follow all directions, caution labels and warnings labels on each individual firework device.
2. Never allow children to handle, play with and/or light any type of fireworks.
3. Do not consume alcohol while handling fireworks.
4. Always display fireworks in a clear, open area free of overhead objects. Always provide for a safe distance between buildings and any viewing audience.
5. Always light fireworks on a hard, flat and level surface to insure stability of the device.
6. Never extend any part of your body over the top of any device.
7. Always ignite one device at a time.
8. Never attempt to re-ignite, alter, or fix any fireworks device which has failed to fire.
9. Always have a form of fire suppression nearby. (fire extinguisher, hose, or bucket of water)

10. Be cautious of igniting aerial devices during high wind conditions.

11. Never aim, point, throw, or shoot fireworks at another person.

12. Always store fireworks in a cool, dry place and dispose of properly.

Should you have any additional safety questions please reach out to our station for more information

Please enjoy the 4<sup>th</sup> and stay safe.

Yours in Public Safety

Chief J. Hempel

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