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Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-426-9622
F: 817-426-9390
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

Nothing has changed, but if you are new to Burleson and unsure about the dos and don'ts with fireworks, this is for you! The storage, use, possession or sale of fireworks is prohibited inside the city and within 5,000 feet of the corporate limits of the City of Burleson. The exception to the rule is the City's Fourth of July fireworks show, which is free to the public.

That show is slated for approximately 9:20 p.m. on Saturday, July 4, at the Chisenhall Fields Sports Complex, 500 W. Hidden Creek Pkwy. A licensed pyrotechnician coordinates the City fireworks show.

"It goes without saying that fireworks in the hands of those who are not professionals are unsafe inside the city limits. Homes and businesses are too close together, which means that one malfunctioning firework could result in grass fires, house fires and potential injuries," Fire Marshal Stacy Singleton said. "Please be considerate of your neighbors and follow the rules so that we don't have a Fourth of July tragedy. We (fire marshals) will be out patrolling the streets through the 4th of July weekend. We recommend that you purchase your fireworks from a stand that allows you to discharge them there. Remember that sparklers are even illegal in the city. Always use fireworks under adult supervision and alcohol and fireworks don't mix."

The City of Burleson's 5,000-foot rule was added as an amendment to the City's fire ordinance in August 2006. Fireworks stands must be more than 5,000 feet outside the city limits. The Texas Government Code gives the City the authority to enforce nuisances that are 5,000 feet outside the city. Singleton said the Burleson City Council chose to do that to protect the citizens and the city.

The Burleson Fire Marshal's Office and/or the Burleson Police Department can write the tickets. Violations of the fire code are subject to a fine of up to \$2,000. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist is a separate offense.

For fireworks safety tips from the Tarrant County Fire Marshal's office, go to the Tarrant County website, <http://bit.ly/Tarrantcountyfireworks>. To report fireworks in your neighborhood, call 817-426-9903. If it is an emergency, call 911.