

Missoula Fire Department

Press Release - For Immediate Broadcast

To: All Media Outlets

From: Gary J. Honold, Assistant Fire Marshal

Re: Fireworks Report Line and Enforcement Patrols

Date: June 30, 2010

INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS REPORT LINE IS OPEN

The City of Missoula has again launched “This Isn’t Rocket Science,” its annual Independence Day safety and education campaign designed to continue the tradition of a safe Fourth of July in Missoula. Long-established ordinances banning the use of fireworks within the Missoula city limits were created in an effort to increase safety for all citizens and to decrease personal injuries or loss of property due to fire. In addition, fireworks often traumatize pets, disturb neighbors, and disrupt sleep.

The City of Missoula wants to remind residents and visitors that fireworks are illegal within the city limits as well as in county parks and all forested lands throughout the state. During the holiday period from Friday, July 2, through Sunday, July 4, Missoula Police Department and Missoula Fire Department staff members will team up in special patrol units to respond to fireworks-related calls.

To report illegal fireworks activity within the city limits during the holiday period, please call the fireworks report line at 258-4850. The report line will be operating through Tuesday, July 5. The Missoula 911 Center will be receiving calls through the report line, so we urge the public to please use the report line for all fireworks complaints and to dial 911 for emergencies only.

Questions about fireworks regulations can be answered by the Fire Prevention Bureau at 552-6210.