



EMPLOYMENT &  
HUMAN SERVICES

## MEMORANDUM

Kathy Gallagher, Director

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To: All Staff, Code 2A

Date: June 14, 2021

From: Cora Young, Emergency & Safety Coordinator

Subject: Illegal Firework Use & Independence Day Holiday Weekend

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Leading up to the Independence Day holiday weekend, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ConFire) and local law enforcement agencies across the county are warning residents of the extreme risk of catastrophic wildfires and serious bodily harm posed by the use of illegal fireworks.

All fireworks are illegal in Contra Costa County regardless of type or labeling. The ongoing drought, high heat, dry weather and strong wind events makes fire danger unusually high this year, making illegal fireworks an even greater threat to our communities than in past wetter and cooler years.

ConFire reported a fourfold increase in vegetation and grass fires last month, and more than a dozen of those were started by the use of illegal fireworks.

Even though many public fireworks events have been cancelled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, residents are strongly discouraged from trying to replace these events with illegal consumer fireworks.

Residents are urged to protect their families, homes and neighborhoods by reporting all illegal firework use immediately to their local law enforcement agency's non-emergency line. In cases where immediate risk to life or property exists, call 911.

For more information on how to protect your home from wildfires, visit [www.cccfpd.org/wildfireprep](http://www.cccfpd.org/wildfireprep).