



City of Harrisonburg
 Public Information Office
 409 South Main Street
 Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801
 540-432-8931 (office)

For Immediate Release
 June 14, 2017

Contact: Mary-Hope Vass, Public Information Officer
 540.432.8931
MaryHope.Vass@HarrisonburgVA.gov

Residents Reminded of Local Fireworks Ordinance

Harrisonburg, Va. – The Harrisonburg Fire Department (HFD) is working to remind residents of safety surrounding the upcoming Independence Day celebrations.

In the city of Harrisonburg, the sale, use, or possession of fireworks is illegal ([City Code Section 16-6-57](#)). Sparklers are also included in fireworks that are considered illegal in the city. Illegal fireworks can be confiscated.

From July 1 through July 7 in 2015, there were 28 calls for service for fireworks violations and in 2016 there were 34 calls for service.

“We want to remind the public of our local ordinances with one ultimate goal, to ensure the safety of all residents throughout the holiday weekend,” explained Captain Mike Armstrong, HFD’s deputy fire marshal.

Staff with the Harrisonburg Fire Department, in partnership with the Harrisonburg Police Department, will have additional staff working throughout the holiday weekend, enforcing this particular city code.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 230 people on average go to the emergency room everyday with fireworks-related injuries around the Independence Day holiday.

The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display conducted by trained professionals. For additional information on Valley Fourth in downtown Harrisonburg, visit www.downtownharrisonburg.org/events/valley-fourth.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to almost 55,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



###