

The background is a dark blue night sky filled with various fireworks. On the left, there are red and white fireworks. On the right, there are blue and white fireworks. The bottom of the image features a decorative border with a row of small blue stars, a red horizontal line, and a pattern of red and white triangles with blue stars.

City of Merced Celebrate Safe

Illegal Fireworks 2020 Campaign

Purpose

- Reduce the amount of illegal fireworks used, sold and possessed in the City of Merced
- Public outreach to increase communication, messaging, and education to report and reduce illegal fireworks utilized on the Fourth of July
- Increase Public Safety presence in the community around the Fourth of July to promote the legal use of fireworks
- Enforcement before and after the Fourth of July

What is a legal / illegal firework?

Legal fireworks

- Have the safe and sane seal



Illegal fireworks

- Any firework that explodes
- Any firework that leaves the ground
- Any safe and sane firework that is modified

Public Outreach

- Banners will be placed in downtown Merced as well as a large banner placed across G Street
- Collaboration with all fire agencies in Merced County to promote consistent message
- Social media campaign
- Community presence by public safety while promoting safety during the 4th of July
- Safe surrender of illegal fireworks – any fire station, anytime

How to report illegal fireworks

- ★ Report using phone, email, and Merced connect app

Report Illegal Fireworks
Please Do Not Call 911. Report using the phone, email, or the FREE Merced Connect App.

Report using the phone
209-388-SAFE

Report using Email
CelebrateSafe@cityofmerced.org

Report using Merced Connect

Possession of just one illegal firework is a misdemeanor and punishable by fine or imprisonment. Illegal fireworks include cherry bombs, bottle rockets, mortars, aerial shells, M-80's and firecrackers. Illegal fireworks can also be easily identified by the lack of a seal of approval from the State of California Fire Marshal. If the firework can leave the ground or explode in the air it is illegal.

Cityofmerced.org/CelebrateSafe

Reporte Fuegos Artificiales Ilegales
Por favor No Llame al 911. Reporte por teléfono, correo electrónico, o por la aplicación gratuita Merced Connect.

Repórtelo por teléfono
209-388-SAFE

Repórtelo por correo electrónico
CelebrateSafe@cityofmerced.org

Repórtelo por Merced Connect

Aún la posesión de un solo fuego artificial legal constituye un delito penado con multa o cárcel. Fuegos artificiales ilegales incluyen las bombas cereza, cohetes de botella, morteros, caparzones aéreos y tronadores. Los fuegos artificiales legales se identifican por no tener el sello de aprobación del Mariscal de Bomberos del Estado de California. Si un fuego artificial puede elevarse desde el suelo o explotar en el aire, este es definitivamente ilegal.

Cityofmerced.org/CelebrateSafe

- ★ Do not call 911
- ★ Phone : (209) 385-6912
- ★ Phone : (209) 388-SAFE (7233)
- ★ Email:
CelebrateSafe@Cityofmerced.org
- ★ Merced Connect App

Expanded Dispatch Center

- ★ Staffed on the 3rd and 4th of July to reduce the calls coming into the dispatch center while ensuring that illegal fireworks reporting has a dedicated answering point
- ★ 2019 requests for service at our expanded dispatch

	July 3, 2019	July 4, 2019
Celebrate Safe Hotline	59	594
Merced Connect	4	47
Email	5	25

Illegal Fireworks Enforcement

- Enforcement of illegal fireworks use, possession, and sales within the City
- Illegal Fireworks Fines (MMC:8.22.020(g))
 - 1st violation: \$1,000
 - 2nd violation: \$1,500
 - 3rd violation: \$2,000
- Use data driven decisions to focus enhanced police patrols

Safe and Sane Fireworks Sales Permits

- The Fire Department has approved 12 initial applications for Safe and Sane fireworks sales (11 non-profit organizations and 1 for profit organization)
- Organizations have until June 15th to submit remaining required documents
- The Fire Department confirmed that the State Fire Marshal's office is still processing retail licenses for fireworks stands
- Recommendations from public health will be used to ensure appropriate precautions are in place in regards to COVID-19

Have a Safe 4th of July

- Always use Safe and Sane fireworks with a responsible adult present
- Always read and follow the directions on the label
- Use Safe and Sane fireworks outdoors only, away from dry grass and flammable materials
- Do not give fireworks to young children!
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person
- Always have a bucket of water or fire extinguisher present for unexpected emergencies
- Always submerge your fireworks after use in a bucket of water overnight



Please Celebrate Safe!