



984 Gorham Street, Newmarket, ON L3Y 1L8

Administration: 905-895-9222

Emergency: 9-1-1

Fireworks safety tips for the Canada Day long weekend!

NEWMARKET, Ontario, June 29, 2016 – With the Canada Day long weekend approaching, Central York Fire Services (CYFS) reminds residents to be safe with the use, handling and disposal of fireworks.

Please remember that fireworks are not to be ignited on public property, including parks and open fields/spaces in the Towns of Newmarket and Aurora. You must obtain a permit through CYFS prior to discharge/ use of fireworks on Town property. Fireworks are only permitted on Canada Day and the day before and after the holiday for Newmarket residents and on Canada Day and the day preceding the holiday for Aurora residents. Residents setting off fireworks may do so only on their own private property or with written permission from the owner of such property and have an 18 metre (59 ft.) frontage on the residential property they are discharging fireworks on. Residents are reminded to purchase fireworks from a reliable vendor, have a water source handy and ensure there is always an adult present when handling fireworks. To minimize the risk of fire and burn injury, CYFS recommends attending a public fireworks display hosted by the municipality or other responsible organizations.

The Towns of Newmarket and Aurora offer firework displays in celebration of Canada Day, here are the events' details:

- The Town of Newmarket will be hosting their Kanata Day fireworks display on **July 1 at dusk, approximately 10 p.m.** at George Richardson Park (Bayview Parkway). For more information, visit newmarket.ca/events
- Visit Aurora for their Canada Day fireworks celebration at Lambert Willson Park (135 Industrial Parkway North) on **July 1, beginning at dusk, approximately 10 p.m.** Visit aurora.ca to learn more

If you choose to have family fireworks or an informal neighborhood display, keep these firework safety tips in mind:

- Purchase fireworks from a reliable source. Stay away from illegal explosives
- Carefully read and follow directions on the label of fireworks packaging
- Only use fireworks outdoors
- Always have a water source such as a running garden hose or bucket of water handy
- Never experiment with or make your own fireworks
- Light only one firework at a time. Never set off fireworks during strong winds
- Never re-light a dud firework. Wait 15 to 20 minutes, then soak the dud in a bucket of water
- Never give fireworks to small children and always have an adult present
- Never throw or point fireworks at other people
- The handler should always wear eye protection and never have any part of their body over the firework
- Remember to be considerate of your neighbours and pets when using fireworks. Only use fireworks between the hours of dusk (approximately 9:30 to 11 p.m.), as the noise may be disturbing to those around you
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the proper disposal of fireworks

For more information, safety tips and links to Town by-laws, visit www.cyfs.ca

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Media Contact:

Michelle Valtas

Communications Assistant

905-953-5300, ext. 2049

mvaltas@newmarket.ca

