



## East Contra Costa Fire Protection District News Release

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**For Immediate Release**

### **East Contra Costa Fire Protection Urges Vigilance In Preventing Fires and Injuries Over The Upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday**

**Brentwood, CA** — As we roll into the Fourth of July, hot, dry and windy conditions are once again expected and ECCFPD is asking everyone to do their part in preventing fires and injuries caused by fireworks. NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) states that throughout the nation over the last several years that approximately **half of the reported fires on the Fourth of July were started by fireworks.**

“Because our first priority is the safety of our community, it’s important to remind people what a fire-safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July means,” said ECCFPD Fire Chief Brian Helmick. Contra Costa County (and Fire District) is a **"fireworks-free-zone"**; therefore, the **possession or use of fireworks of all types and sizes (including Safe and Sane fireworks) are banned** in the county and the Fire District (County Ordinance 44-2.002 and East Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Ordinance 5601.1.3). The District includes the cities of Brentwood and Oakley Discovery Bay, Bethel Island, Knightsen, Byron, Marsh Creek, and Morgan Territory.

“Compounded by the Fire District’s underfunded resources we need to do everything we can to prevent and protect against the threat of fires to our communities”, Fire Marshal Steven Aubert added, “Fire Service personnel will be out enforcing these laws with our allied Police agencies”, he said. **Any person who starts a fire from fireworks** – even accidentally – can be held liable for the fire suppression costs as well as property damage costs. Possession of illegal

fireworks that explode, go into the air, or move on the ground in an uncontrollable manner can lead to a possible **fine of up to \$50,000 as well as prison time or jail for up to one year.**

“We appreciate that everyone wants to celebrate the Independence Day holiday. We just ask everyone to please avoid the temptation of putting yourself and your neighbors at risk.” Fire Marshall Aubert stated.

The District wishes everyone a fun and safe 4th of July holiday!

Learn more at [www.eccfpd.org](http://www.eccfpd.org).

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**ABOUT THE EAST CONTRA COSTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**

The East Contra Costa Fire Protection District (ECCFPD) is a rural-funded fire district that currently operates 3 fire stations and has a 3-station deficit. The District protects a population of more than 128,000 across its 249 square-mile service area. ECCFPD provides firefighting personnel, emergency medical services (basic life support) and fire prevention to the residents and businesses of the cities of Brentwood and Oakley, and unincorporated communities of Discovery Bay, Bethel Island, Knightsen, Byron, Marsh Creek, and Morgan Territory. **Learn more** at [www.eccfpd.org](http://www.eccfpd.org) or social media via Facebook (East Contra Costa Fire Protection District), Instagram (@east\_contra\_costa\_fire), Twitter (@ECCFPD ) or our YouTube channel (East Contra Costa Fire Protection District).