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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Wildfire Preparedness is Year-Round
Celebrate with One Less Spark!

Santa Fe – Every New Mexican knows the beginning of July marks the traditional start of monsoon season. While monsoons bring lightning, they don't always bring as much rain as we would like. As Fourth of July weekend approaches, remember fireworks are illegal on most public lands, and always illegal on National Forest Land no matter what day of the year.

The New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department's [Forestry Division](#) reminds everyone to work together to reduce unwanted human-caused fires during this holiday weekend, especially when some natural wildfire starts could be around the corner. This month's Wildfire Preparedness Is Year-Round Message: **Celebrate with One Less Spark!**

Leaving fireworks to the professionals reduces the risk of injury, unintentional wildfire starts, roof damage, and litter. Consider celebrating with safer, alternative methods:

- Glow sticks – safe for all ages!
- Noisemakers.
- Red, white, and blue silly string.
- Outdoor movie night with a projector.
- Finding professional fireworks show nearby.

Remember, firefighting professionals are usually busy and stretched thin during Fourth of July week. By limiting unwanted sparks due to fireworks, campfires, and BBQs; everyone can do their part to prevent human-caused wildfires this summer.

If fire restrictions are in place, consider using gas-powered camp stoves and firepits. Always be cognizant of your stove and campfire placement. Setting up stoves near tall dead grass during windy days still presents a risk. When using charcoal grills, don't dump coals in the woods; they may seem out but can re-ignite when hot.

To check for fire restrictions in your area visit: <https://nmfireinfo.com/fire-restrictions/>
If there are no fire restrictions currently in place, it does not mean wildfire risk is nonexistent. Recreate responsibly so all can enjoy this year's Independence Day!

The New Mexico Forestry Division is working with the [Forest Stewards Guild](#) and [FACNM](#), the [Santa Fe, Cibola](#) and [Carson](#) National Forests, [New Mexico Coalition of Conservation Districts](#), [National Park Service](#), [Bureau of Indian Affairs](#), and [Bureau of Land Management New Mexico](#) to continue our wildfire preparedness calendar in 2023 and share the message across multiple platforms, including social media, webinars and community events. Bookmark the [wildfire preparedness webpage](#) to follow the campaign throughout the year.



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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.
<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov>



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2023

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