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News Release

For Immediate Release

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Wayne County, police/fire agencies offer safe fireworks demonstration

Redford Township – Every year, thousands of fireworks-related injuries are reported nationwide during the Fourth of July season. With close adult supervision and basic safety, most of those injuries could have been prevented.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) are teaming up today (Thursday, June 23) for a demonstration to promote fireworks safety for the upcoming holiday season. The Wayne County Sheriff's Department and the Redford Township Fire Department will participate.

The demonstration is scheduled at noon today at Bell Creek Park in Redford Township.

"Our goal is to show youngsters and their parents how dangerous fireworks can be if not handled safely,'' Executive Ficano said. "Using common sense can prevent injuries."

Michigan residents often are confused as to which fireworks are illegal and which can be sold and used. It is illegal to sell, possess, transport or use fireworks in Michigan without a permit, according to state law. Devices that are legal include flat paper caps, toy trick noisemakers, flitter sparklers, fountains and toy snakes.

Officials encourage residents to report illegal explosives, like M-80s, to the local fire or police department.

Some basic safety tips:

- Parents should not allow children to play with or ignite fireworks
- Fireworks should only be used outdoors
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of a malfunction

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