

LA National Guard Emergency Management Bulletin

July 2020 Volume FY20 Issue 10



Purpose

The National Guard (NG) Emergency Management (EM) program is responsible for all activities and operations related to preparing for, mitigating the potential effect of, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all multi-agency and/or multijurisdictional emergencies on or impacting NG installations nationwide. The NG EM Program functions within an all-hazards environment consisting of all natural, technological (man-made), and terroristic hazards.

Vision

To provide the NG EM services when and where they are needed with the joint and interagency capacity necessary to effectively and efficiently protect the NG community and mission capabilities from all hazards.

Mission

LANG EM WEB PAGE:

To provide integrated and comprehensive NG EM services necessary to protect our community and mission capabilities from all hazards in a cost effective, implementable, and sustainable manner through resiliency.

http://geauxguard.la.gov/resources/emergency-management/



IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

EMERGENCY Fire-Police-Ambulance 911

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MAJ Christopher Pace 318-290-5666 Camp Beauregard EM Manager christopher.g.pace.mil@mail.mil

Cristina Steib 504-278-8011 Jackson Barracks EM Manager cristina.m.steib.mil@mail.mil

Chris Letendre 225-319-4693 GWLC EM Manager christopher.a.letendre.nfg@mail.mil

MSG Robert Cooper 318-382-4151 Camp Minden EM Manager robert.a.cooper33.nfg@mail.mil

LA National Guard Joint Operation Center 888-278-8748

GOHSEP

225-925-7500

American Red Cross 1-800-RED-CROSS

Federal Emergency Management Agency 1-800-621-FEMA

National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

This month's bulletin will focus on Shelter in Place vs Lockdown, summer heat (for people and pets) and fireworks safety. As the weather gets much hotter, we are preparing for vacations, going to the beach and summer fun. The hot months and long days mean that there is plenty of time for fishing and barbecues.

But don't let the sunny days and warm nights fool you. Summer also holds significant weather and water hazards. Heat waves can be lengthy and deadly. Lightning deaths are at their peak during the summer months.

Beach hazards such as rip currents can catch the unprepared and, it's the hurricane season.

Be prepared: make a plan and prepare a disaster kit for yourself and your pet. I hope you find this information useful.

The best time to prepare is before the event happens. Always Remember, "Be Prepared". Protect What Matters



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Shelter in Place and Lockdown (a.k.a. Secure in Place)

Emergency Management practitioners distinguish between "Shelter in Place" and "Secure in Place" (or "Lockdown") notifications based on the pending threat to the community. Both are instructions to put effective barriers between yourself and a threat. The difference is in the type of threat, and what kind of barrier is suggested. Both are communicated to the community through an emergency notification system.

Shelter in Place

In certain situations – such as a weather emergency, environmental hazard (chemical release, air pollution), or local emergency (nearby police activity), officials may direct you to *SHELTER* in Place. A shelter in place is the use of a structure and its indoor atmosphere to temporarily separate you from a hazardous outdoor atmosphere. This can be because of a hazardous material incident, or perhaps a weather related emergency. It entails closing all doors, windows and vents and taking immediate shelter in a readily accessible location. The purpose of a shelter in place is to direct the community to safer locations to avoid the hazard, and to keep arteries clear for emergency use.

When it is necessary to shelter in place, you should:

- Remain calm
- If you are outside, seek cover in the nearest building. Do not wait until you see or smell the hazard to seek shelter. Resist the urge to go outside and "check it out".
- Once inside, find an interior room or hallway and await further instructions. Stay away from exterior windows.
- Close and lock all exterior doors and windows (to avoid inadvertent opening).
- Turn off heating, cooling and ventilation systems.
- If you are inside, stay there, even if you do not normally work or reside in that building.
- Do not leave until an "all clear" is received.





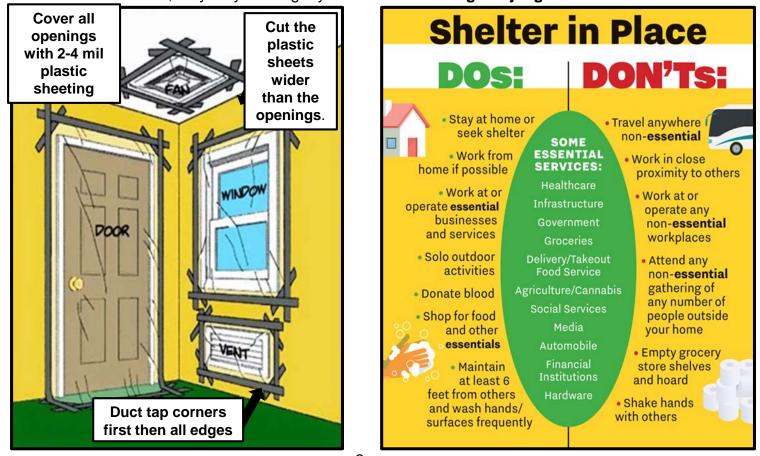
LA National Guard Emergency Management Bulletin Lockdown (Secure in place)

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In certain situations, likely involving an immediate physical threat, officials may direct you to **LOCKDOWN** or **SECURE** in place.

A lockdown may be instructed during situations such as the presence of a hostile or armed intruder. A lockdown requires locking doors, windows, and barricading oneself to block entry to a facility, a classroom, or to an office suite. The purpose of a secure in place is to create a secure physical location where a threat may be physically prevented to entering spaces – to lock down secure community members in place. This also facilitates law enforcement activity. When it is necessary to secure in place, you should:

- Remain calm
- If you are outside, seek cover in the nearest unlocked building. Do not wait until you see the danger to seek shelter. Resist the urge to go outside and "check it out".
- If the buildings nearest to you have locked exterior doors, continue moving away from the danger and seek cover. Move to another building or leave the area if it is safe to do so.
- Once inside, find an interior room and lock or barricade the doors.
- Turn off lights, silence phones, close blinds, and move away from windows. This avoids creating indicators that the intruder may see or hear to detect people.
- Await further instructions.
- Do not leave until an "all clear" is received.
- Once in a secure space, the space needs to remain secure. If there are individuals outside the secured door that seek to enter, they may endanger you and others. **Use good judgement.**





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Keep Your Cool in Hot Weather!

Learn about heat-related illness and how to stay cool and safe in hot weather.

High temperatures kill hundreds of people every year. Heat-related deaths and illness are preventable, yet more than 600 people die from extreme heat every year.

Take measures to stay cool, remain hydrated, and keep informed. Getting too hot can make you sick. You can become ill from the heat if your body can't compensate for it and properly cool you off. The main things affecting your body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather are:

- **High humidity.** When the humidity is high, sweat won't evaporate as quickly. This keeps your body from releasing heat as fast as it may need to.
- **Personal factors.** Age, obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, mental illness, poor circulation, sunburn, and prescription drug and alcohol use all can play a role in whether a person can cool off enough in very hot weather.

Those who are at highest risk include people 65 and older, children younger than two, and people with chronic diseases or mental illness.

Closely monitor people who depend on you for their care and ask these questions:

- Are they drinking enough water?
- Do they have access to air conditioning?
- Do they need help keeping cool?



People age 65 and older are at high risk for heat-related illnesses.

People at greatest risk for heat-related illness can take the following protective actions to prevent illness or death:

- Stay in air-conditioned buildings as much as you can. Contact your local health department or locate an air-conditioned shelter in your area. Air-conditioning is the number one way to protect yourself against heat-related illness and death. If your home is not air-conditioned, reduce your risk for heatrelated illness by spending time in public facilities that are air-conditioned and using air conditioning in vehicles.
- Do not rely on a fan as your main cooling device during an extreme heat event.
- Drink more water than usual and don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.
- Check on a friend or neighbor and have someone do the same for you.
- Don't use the stove or oven to cook-it will make you and your house hotter.



Even young and healthy people can get sick from the heat if they participate in strenuous physical activities during hot weather:

- Limit your outdoor activity, especially midday when the sun is hottest.
- Wear and reapply sunscreen as indicated on the package.
- Pace your activity. Start activities slow and pick up the pace gradually.
- Drink more water than usual and don't wait until you're thirsty to drink more. Muscle cramping may be an early sign of heat-related illness.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.

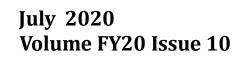
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Keep Your Cool in Hot Weather Continued!



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

If you play a sport that practices during hot weather, protect yourself and look out for your teammates:

- Schedule workouts and practices earlier or later in the day when the temperature is cooler.
- Monitor a teammate's condition, and have someone do the same for you.
- Seek medical care right away if you or a teammate has symptoms of heat-related illness.
- Learn more about how to protect young athletes from heat-related illness by taking this <u>CDC</u> <u>course</u>.

Everyone should take these steps to prevent heat-related illnesses, injuries, and death during hot weather:

CDC

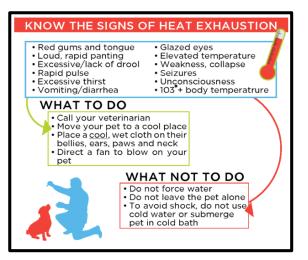
- Stay in an air-conditioned indoor location as much as you can.
- Drink plenty of fluids even if you don't feel thirsty.
- Schedule outdoor activities carefully.

 $\circ\,$ Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing and sunscreen.

- o Pace yourself.
- Take cool showers or baths to cool down.
- Check on a friend or neighbor and have someone do the same for you.
- Never leave children or pets in cars.
- · Check the local news for health and safety updates.













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CPSC Reminds Consumers to Celebrate with Safety This Fourth of July Season

Release Details

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Family, fun, food and fireworks. It's that time of year when many will be celebrating the Fourth of July holiday. All too often, however, celebrations can end with a trip to the hospital if fireworks are mishandled. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) wants to make sure consumers know the risks, so that they can prevent the tragedies. At a fireworks safety press conference and demonstration on the National Mall today, CPSC announced that at least five fireworks-related deaths were reported in 2018—all associated with reloadable aerial devices.

"CPSC works year-round to help prevent deaths and injuries from fireworks, by verifying fireworks meet safety regulations in our ports, marketplace and on the road," said Ann Marie Buerkle, CPSC acting chairman. "Beyond CPSC's efforts, we want to make sure everyone takes simple safety steps to celebrate safely with their family and friends."

Injuries:

There were an estimated 9,100 fireworks-related, emergency department-treated injuries in 2018, with 62 percent of them occurring during the month surrounding the Fourth of July (June 22-July 22). During that period, firecrackers were the number one cause of injuries, accounting for 19 percent of the estimated injuries. For children under 5 years of age, sparklers accounted for more than half of the total estimated injuries.

Deaths:

Since <u>2018 reporting</u> is not yet complete, the five fireworks-related deaths should be considered a minimum. The victims range in age from 16 to 49. In one of the reported cases, an 18-year-old launched a mortar shell from a tube on the top of his head. The ignited shell did not launch and exploded. The victim died in the hospital the next day.

CPSC staff has reports of 121 fireworks-related deaths between 2003 and 2018.

Tips to Celebrate Safely:

Also attending CPSC's fireworks press conference, Dr. Sarah Combs, an emergency room doctor from Children's National Medical Center. Dr. Combs said, "Each year, too many emergency room doctors see too many fireworks-related injuries. Don't make the emergency room part of your holiday; don't let children play with fireworks," she said.

Remember, even if your consumer fireworks are legal, they still come with risk. If you light fireworks, keep safety in mind for you, your family and those around you.

Make sure consumer fireworks are legal in your area, before buying or using them. (<u>View Fact Sheet</u>) *Never* use or make professional-grade fireworks.

Do not buy or use fireworks that are packaged in brown paper; this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and are not for consumer use.

Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks, including sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about <u>2,000 degrees</u> Fahrenheit. This is hot enough to melt some metals.

Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Move to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks

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Never point or throw fireworks at another person or occupied area.

Light fireworks one at a time, then move away from them quickly.

Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy, in case of fire or other mishap.

Never try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak them with water and throw them away. After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding the device, to prevent a trash fire.

For more information, visit the <u>fireworks safety education center</u> and check for fireworks <u>recalls</u> at CPSC.gov.

Highlights

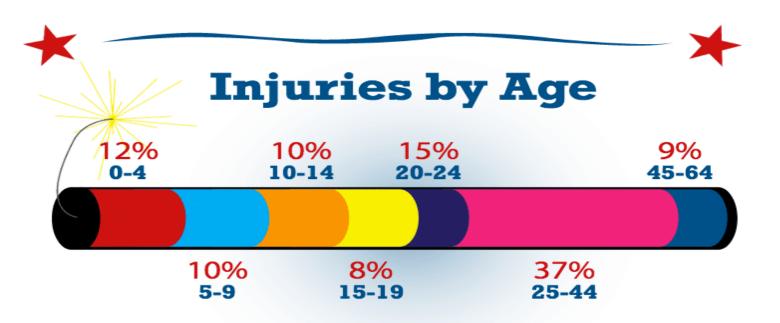
An estimated 19,500 fires started by fireworks were reported to local US fire departments in 2018. These fires caused five civilian deaths, 46 civilian injuries, and \$105 million in direct property damage. Based on 2014-2018 annual averages:

Brush, grass, or forest fires accounted for three of every five (59 percent) of fireworks fires.

Only nine percent of the fireworks fires were structure fires; but, these incidents accounted for almost all of the fire deaths, three-quarters (74 percent) of the fire injuries, and 45 percent of the fire property damage. More than one-quarter (28 percent) of fires started by fireworks in 2014–2018 were reported on the Fourth of July.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that 9,100 consumer fireworks-related injuries were seen in US hospital emergency departments in 2018.*

Burns accounted for 44 percent of the fireworks-related injuries seen in the month around July 4. Many fireworks-related injuries were caused by fireworks that are legal in most states.



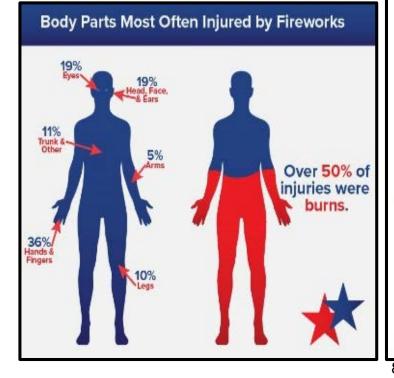
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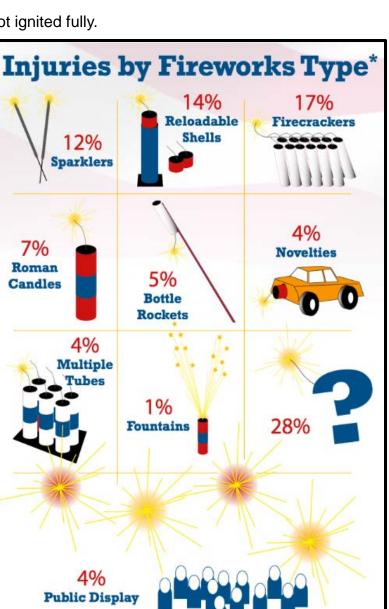
Emergency Management Bulletin Source: Consumer Product Safety Commission

250 people on average go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday.

Follow these safety tips when using fireworks:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks that are packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.







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Remember to always protect critical information. Ask yourself, who needs to know? Talk to your family and loved ones about OPSEC. They may know when you are leaving for training, TDY or deployments, but do they know not to share this information? Maybe they join an online support group. Maybe they post a picture of you there telling all group members that you will be leaving on date X. Someone may feel sympathetic and then asks more questions. Who knows what they will do with all the details that are shared with them. Do your family members know what resources are safe for them to use? Have you told them about your FRG or your Army Community Service with all the programs they provide, so your family can turn to a trusted support network when you leave instead of an online group in which just about everyone else is a stranger and anyone can pretend to be someone that they are not? <u>#FoodForThought</u> Talk to your family and loved ones. Educate them about OPSEC and the risks of sharing critical information. You can start by sharing this post. <u>#ThinkOPSEC</u>



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Going out of town? Remember OPSEC at home, too.



Disguise the nature of your "Mission":

- Have a trusted friend or relative pick up your mail and newspapers

- Put your lights on a timer

- Be careful if using social networking sites, which can broadcast your vacation to the world!

- What else is giving you away?



