

From: Eldon Ledoux [mailto:erledoux@StGeorgefire.com]
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2009 5:30 PM
To: PIO
Subject: Fireworks Warning from St. George Fire

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE VIA YOUR NETWORK

Dear St. George Safety Network Members,

PLEASE, NO FIREWORKS FOR THE FOURTH

With the greater Baton Rouge area having received only about one-tenth of the average monthly rainfall expected in the month of June and less than half the average total year to date, everything is parched. Temperatures in the high nineties have only compounded the problem. The forecast through the Fourth of July offers little hope of significant relief.

In response to these severe conditions, the State Fire Marshall has issued a state-wide burning ban. The only exceptions are those agricultural burns permitted by the Department of Agriculture or the Department of Environmental Quality or burns specifically permitted by the local fire department.

The private detonation of fireworks is always illegal in East Baton Rouge Parish, therefore not permitted in the St. George Fire Protection District. In the past, this has been a much-ignored prohibition. We ask your co-operation in making this Fourth of July fireworks free. Yes, it's fun. Yes, kids (of all ages) enjoy it. And, yes, your neighbors may come out on the porch or into the yard to enjoy your personal fireworks display, right up to the time a glowing projectile lands in some dry brush or on someone's roof. Please, help everyone have a safe Fourth of July - lay off the fireworks.

Under these conditions and circumstances, personal injury and property damage caused by the illegal use of fireworks would most certainly not be intentional, but may be hard to call "accidental."

Eldon Ledoux

Public Information Officer
St. George Fire Protection District
13686 Perkins Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
(225) 454-6573 or (225) 279-1493