



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Fireworks – 4<sup>th</sup> of July**

**Alvin, Texas. (June 26, 2017)** – Every year, thousands of injuries occur as the result of improper handling of fireworks and/or faulty firework explosions. Some of these injuries are serious enough to require hospital treatment and some leave the citizens with permanent disabilities. It only takes a split second for something to go wrong.

In the past, the Alvin Fire Department has responded to various fires in fields and on the roofs of homes caused by the use of fireworks. Here are a couple of tips to help protect against possible fires that may occur around your home. 1) Clean all leaves and debris from your roof and gutters. 2) Remove tall grass and weeds from within 10 to 15 feet of your home.

For the safety of the citizens of Alvin, an ordinance was enacted many years ago to help protect against firework-related accidents. It is illegal to possess or discharge fireworks within the city limits of Alvin. Individuals in possession of fireworks or caught discharging fireworks in the city limits by either the Fire Marshal or any Police Officer will be issued a citation and may have their fireworks confiscated at the discretion of the officer. Individuals found guilty of the firework ordinance may be fined up to \$2000.00.

A recent change in fireworks legislation removed the 5,000-foot buffer zone from the boundaries of all city limits. Even though there are more firework sales available, please know that fireworks are still illegal in the City of Alvin.

The best rule of thumb is if you can't buy it in a store within the City like Wal-Mart, it is illegal to have.

Have a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July!