

Be Safe from Bites and Stings

Never underestimate the power of an irritating insect bite or sting. Most people who are stung by an insect will experience some pain around the sting site. In some cases, stings can be poisonous, cause allergic reactions or carry diseases. In extreme cases, they can cause death.

Insect Repellent Safety

Small amounts of insect repellents generally will not have harmful effects. However, DEET, one of the most effective ingredients in topical insect repellents, may be dangerous. Current studies show that it is acceptable to use concentrations of up to 30 percent for adults and children as young as two months old.

The concentration of DEET is proportional to the amount of time it protects. For example, products with concentrations of 10 percent are effective for about two hours; products with a concentration of 24 percent protect an average of five hours.



Safety Tips

- Wear clothing that will cover as much exposed skin as possible when outdoors.
- Select a product with the lowest concentration of DEET effective for the amount of time you plan to spend outdoors.
- Follow the directions on the label of the insect repellents.
- Wash your hands after using insect repellents and pesticides.

Minooka Fire Protection District

F.A.S.T. NEWS

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Fireworks Safety Tips

The Minooka Fire Protection District, the Office of Illinois State Fire Marshal and the National Fire Protection Association recommend attending a professional fireworks display on July 4th to ensure an enjoyable and safe holiday.

People interested in shooting fireworks, either privately or as a professional display, need to be aware of Illinois' new fireworks regulations and their own local ordinances.

It's important to note that several well-known types of fireworks used for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by explosion, combustion, deflagration or detonation, such as firecrackers, bottle rockets and Roman candles, are not allowed in Illinois including the Villages of Minooka and Channahon. For a more detailed list or to view Minooka's Fireworks Ordinance 8-2-7, visit the Village of Minooka website: www.minooka.com. For the Village of Channahon's Fireworks Ordinance 13.5/25-2, visit the Village of Channahon website: www.channahon.org.

Sparklers and Children: A Dangerous Combination!

Many children are injured each year by sparklers. While legal, sparklers present a serious danger due to the high temperature of the wire during and after use. Sparklers burn at temperatures of up to 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit (982 degrees Celsius) and remain extremely hot long after the sparks have stopped. Novelty fireworks, such as snakes, sparklers and party-poppers are not regulated by the state, although municipalities have the authority to enact an ordinance prohibiting the sale and use of sparklers on public property. Children playing with novelty fireworks must be closely supervised by adults to prevent injury.

For more information on firework related injuries, visit the NFPA website: www.nfpa.org/fireworks, or for the Illinois Fireworks Use Act visit the Office of Illinois State Fire Marshal's website: <http://www.state.il.us/osfm/FirePrevention/FireworksDisplays.htm>

*Information for this article was made available from the NFPA and OSFM

Summer Product Safety

Pool Products: Bromine and chlorine, two common pool chemicals, usually come in tablet or powder form and can be dangerous if the chemical's dust is breathed in. (This happens frequently when the container is first opened.) The dust can cause skin rashes, eye irritation and shortness of breath, similar to an asthma attack. Store these products out of the

reach of children. Keep away from the eyes and mouth; wash hands after touching the product.



Sunscreens: Consuming a small amount usually does not cause symptoms, but ingesting larger amounts may result in nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Keep the product up high and out of the reach of children. Use the product according to the directions on the label.

THE DEDICATED MEMBERS OF THE MINOOKA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT STRIVE TO PROVIDE RELIABLE EMERGENCY SERVICES, PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS FOR OUR CUSTOMERS IN A COST EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER.

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Keeping Cool Tips

Cool tips for everyone

- Stay in air-conditioned space at home, the library, the mall, movie theater or at a cooling center.
- Drink lots of water and natural juices. Avoid alcoholic beverages, coffee and colas.
- Keep shades drawn and blinds closed, but keep windows slightly open.
- Stay out of the sun and avoid going out in the heat.
- Keep electric lights turned off or turned down.
- Take cool baths or showers.
- Wear loose, light cotton clothing.
- Do not eat heavy meals. Avoid cooking with your oven.
- Avoid or minimize physical exertion.
- Do not sit in a hot car, even for a short time. Never leave a child in a hot car.

- Check on family members, friends and neighbors to make sure they stay cool and safe.
- If you or anyone you know needs emergency medical attention, call 911.
- It is against the law to open a fire hydrant. An open hydrant hinders the fire department's ability to fight fires, reduces water pressure in your home and may cause basement flooding.



Special cooling tips for seniors

- During heat emergencies, seniors are urged to contact their local area agencies on Aging or the Senior Help Line at (800) 252-8966 for assistance with locating senior centers, adult day service sites and other buildings that serve as cooling centers.
- Humidity combined with temperature make up the heat index, which is similar to the wind chill factor in winter. If the temperature is in the 90's with high humidity, it can feel like it is well over 100 degrees.

Cool tips for your pets

- Provide water and shelter from the sun at all times.
- Restrict activity during extreme heat.
- Never leave pets in parked vehicles. Even moderate heat rapidly increases and can kill the pet quickly.

*Information for this article was obtained from the OSFM