

4th of July Hazard Identification

Mitch Clark

Senior Project Manager, RR-LC EPM

June 26, 2023 Board of Commissioner's
Meeting

Hazard Identification

- Next week is 4th of July week and many of us will be celebrating with numerous summertime activities.
- Let's go over some popular 4th of July activities and try to identify potential hazards and how we might mitigate them.



Grilling/Cooking

Identified Hazard	Possible Mitigations
Burns (22,155 ER visits per year for injuries involving grills*)	Follow manufacturer's recommended lighting instructions
	Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away from the grill area
Uncontrolled fire (9,079 home fires per year involving gas grills, 1,440 home fires per year involving charcoal grills*)	Ensure grill is cleaned regularly to prevent build up of flammable greases
	Ensure grill is at least 2 feet away from any adjacent flammable structures
Foodborne Illness	Keep cold foods cold (<40°F) and hot foods hot (>140°F) to prevent growth of foodborne bacteria
	Once served, food should not sit out more than 2 hours, or 1 hours if temp is >90°F

*Source: NPFA.org (<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Grilling>)

Fireworks

Identified Hazard	Possible Mitigations
<p>Fire (In 2018, there were 19,500 fires in the US started by fireworks, causing 5 deaths, 46 injuries, and \$105 million in property damage)*</p>	<p>Personal fireworks are banned throughout Chelan County and Douglas County (including East Wenatchee). Consider watching the community fireworks show at Walla Walla Point Park.</p>
<p>Burns/Injury (In 2021, 11,500 ER visits in the US caused by fireworks. 74% of injuries were between 6/18/2021 and 7/18/2021.)**</p>	

*Source: NPFA.org (<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/News-and-Research/Fire-statistics-and-reports/US-Fire-Problem/Fire-causes/osfireworks.pdf>)

**Source: CPSC.gov (<https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/2021-Fireworks-Annual-Report.pdf>)

Water Activities

Identified Hazard	Possible Mitigations
<p>Drowning (Each year, the CDC estimates that are 4,000 fatal drownings and an additional 8,000 nonfatal drownings in the US. Drowning is the leading cause of death for children 1-4.)*</p>	<p>While boating, ensure life jackets are available for each person. Children 12 and under must wear a properly fitting life jacket on moving boats.</p>
	<p>Rivers and streams are inherently dangerous places to recreate. Wear a PFD and watch children closely when on or near moving water. Choose safer swimming options such as a lake or a pool.</p>
	<p>Limit alcohol use while on the water. Alcohol use is involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• up to 70% of deaths associated with water recreation, like boating or swimming,• nearly 1 in 4 emergency department visits for drowning,• about 1 in 5 reported boating deaths.

*Source: CDC.gov (<https://www.cdc.gov/drowning/facts/index.html>)

Outdoor Activities

Identified Hazard	Possible Mitigations
Heat Exhaustion/Heat Stroke (In the US, there are an average of 702 heat-related deaths, 67,512 heat-related ER visits, and 9,235 heat-related hospitalizations)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get plenty to drink, limiting caffeine and alcohol.• Choose lightweight and loose-fitting clothing.• Try to schedule outdoor activities during cooler parts of the day and rest often during peak temperature times• Sunburns can affect your body's ability to cool down. Protect yourself with a sun-blocking clothing and sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.
Bug Bites	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoid ticks by walking in the center of trails and staying out of wooded and bushy areas with high grass and leaf litter.• Avoid mosquitos with long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Utilize EPA-registered insect repellents.

*Source: CDC.org (<https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/Applications/heatTracker/>)

Hazard Identification

- Please take a minute when planning or starting a new activity to consider the possible hazards.
- Take steps to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your property.

