

Celebrate safely: Milton deputy fire chief warns of dangers of fireworks

Residents planning to set off fireworks on Canada Day urged to read up on regulations and safety tips

STEVE LEBLANC
sleblanc@metroland.com

It only takes a second for a holiday celebration to turn sour.

Milton Fire Department deputy chief Kevin Foster knows this too well.

"I heard of this one incident where a friend or family member dropped a sparkler and it got lodged in this young girl's shoe and she suffered a major leg injury," Foster said.

"Then there was the professional football player who lost his index finger three years ago. They (fireworks accidents) don't discriminate."

It's stories like this - as well as the frighteningly-foolish viral video of Toronto youth shooting fireworks at each other during the Victoria Day weekend - that have Foster and the MFD pushing their safety-first message as another holiday weekend approaches.

"Obviously, we encourage people to go watch one of the great community displays because they are the safest," Foster said. "They're more spectacular anyway."

"I don't believe we had any calls of injuries or property damage over the Victoria Day weekend, but that doesn't mean they're weren't any. Our main goal is to educate."

With that in mind, those looking to use commercial fireworks should have a big enough space - somewhere between 400 to 900 square metres, depending on the type of fireworks - as well as a safe place to set off from, like a pail of sand.

"Give yourself enough distance and be careful with any fireworks that appear to be duds. Don't try to re-light them if they don't go off at first," said Foster. "Sparklers can be a big problem, especially with younger children. You see a lot of eye injuries and when they're burned down it can be really hot."

With that in mind, eye protection is highly recommended, as is clothing that covers one's arms and legs.

Foster said the department gets regular calls about violations, including fireworks in unauthorized places like community parks.

"You've got to do it on your own property," he said. Those looking to get a Town of Milton fireworks permit should submit their requests with at least three days notice to ensure on-time approval.

"That's a challenge we've had, with all the late requests," explained Foster. "And just because you've put in a request doesn't mean you have authority yet (to set off fireworks)."

Once approval is granted, a visit to miltonfire.ca is highly encouraged to read up on safety tips and the municipal fireworks bylaw.

"Safe use is of the greatest importance," said Foster.

SALES PERIOD | JUNE 21-27, 2018

TERRA

GREAT TIME TO PLANT!
ENJOY SAVINGS ON
TERRA QUALITY
PRODUCTS!

YOU DECIDE...
WHEN & HOW MUCH
YOU WANT TO SAVE!

No rain-checks or layaways.
Selection will vary from
store to store.

THE
GREAT
GARDEN
EVENT

JUST ADD COLOUR

NOW
30%
OFF

June 21-27

40%
OFF

June 28 - July 4

50%
OFF

July 5 - 18

THERE'S SAVINGS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT AND FRESH STOCK ARRIVING WEEKLY! 4 WEEK SALE WHERE SAVINGS GROW! SHOP EARLY FOR THE LARGEST SELECTION. SALE ITEMS ARE CLEARLY MARKED. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

FRIDAY 2 DOOR CRASHERS

JAPANESE
MAPLE
BLOODGOOD

2 gal. pot

\$39.99

Reg. \$79.99

SAVE
\$40

75
PER STORE

ASTILBE
ASSORTED

2 gal. pot

\$9.99

Reg. \$24.99

SAVE
\$15

100
PER STORE

SATURDAY 2 DOOR CRASHERS

ROSES

2 gal. pot - Assorted Hybrid Tea,
Grandiflora, Floribunda,
Climbing

\$9.99

Reg. \$18.99

SAVE
\$9

150
PER STORE

9' PUSH BUTTON
TILT HEXAGON
UMBRELLA

\$100.00

Reg. \$229.99

SAVE
\$130

40
PER STORE

SUNDAY 2 DOOR CRASHERS

GERANIUM
PLANTER

10" pot

\$12.99

Reg. \$29.99

SAVE
\$17

150
PER STORE

BOUGAINVILLEA
HANGING BASKET

10" pot

\$14.99

Reg. \$39.99

SAVE
\$25

100
PER STORE

2 DOOR CRASHER SPECIALS FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY starting at 8:00am while quantities last!

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Mon - Tues 8 am - 6 pm | Wed - Fri 8 am - 8 pm

Sat - Sun 8 am - 6 pm

FOLLOW US ON:



www.terragreenhouses.com

CHECK
ONLINE FOR
UPCOMING
TERRA
WORKSHOPS
& SEMINARS

TERRA

Where colour lives!