

Snohomish County Executive  
**AARON REARDON**



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, June 27, 2008

[www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org)

 **Fire marshal encourages fireworks safety**

*Holiday can be fun and injury free if precautions taken*

As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office urges all residents to use extreme caution when lighting fireworks.

In 2007, Snohomish County experienced more than \$400,000 in fire loss related to fireworks usage. Nationwide, more than 11,000 injuries each year are the result of fireworks. Most injuries occur because of mishandling or misuse of fireworks.

In Snohomish County and its municipalities, it is illegal to possess or discharge firecrackers, bottle rockets and skyrockets. These illegal explosive devices cause 90 percent of all fireworks-related fires in Washington.

Snohomish County code allows for legal fireworks to be discharged in unincorporated areas July 4 only, between 9 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. Cities within Snohomish County have varying requirements including bans on fireworks. Residents should contact their local fire department or city hall to determine whether fireworks are allowed and when.

Regardless of location, all fireworks users should follow these simple steps to ensure safety:

**Have a bucket of water ready for emergencies and to douse used fireworks;**

**Never build or experiment with homemade fireworks;**

**Never let children handle or light fireworks, including sparklers;**

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**How are we doing?**

Did you know that you can track how well the County is meeting its performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of those services, and the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](http://www.snoco.org/SnoStat).

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**Never ignite fireworks while holding them;**

**Make sure you have enough space away from potential hazards, including buildings, vehicles and flammable materials;**

**Never light fireworks inside a house or structure, including a garage;**

**Watch what you wear as loose clothing can catch on fire and should not be worn while handling fireworks;**

**Never try to re-ignite fireworks that have malfunctioned, instead soak them in water then throw them away;**

**Never ignite fireworks when you are under the influence of alcohol, prescription drugs or illegal narcotics;**

**Never aim fireworks at vehicles;**

**In case of an emergency, dial 9-1-1.**

For more information on fireworks regulations in Snohomish County, go to [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org) (keyword – fireworks) or call the Fire Marshal's Office at 425-388-3557.

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 **Parks' summer camps and programs now in full swing**

Schools are out for the summer, but Snohomish County Parks has lots of fun activities to keep your kids busy. Summer camps and programs are now in full swing. Whether your child is interested in soccer, softball, golf, basketball, arts or even ice skating and aviation, Parks has activities to meet every child's interest.

Sign your child up now for one or more upcoming activities:

**Ice Skating Extravaganza: June 30 – July 2**

Each day begins with ice-skating instruction provided by the experts at the Lynnwood Ice Skating Center, followed by a fun-filled session of skating to music and lights. Afternoon activities include swimming at McCollum Pool, a visit to Meadowdale Beach County Park and a surprise location, depending on the weather. (Ages 8-13)

**Contact me:**

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Phone: 425.388.3460  
Fax: 425.388.3434

Or, [send me an email](#).

And please be sure to [visit me on the web!](#)

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

**Float a Boat: June 30 – July 2**

Begin three action packed days with water safety instruction followed by basic training on how to handle small kayaks. Then hop aboard sit-on-top kayaks, paddle the waters of Flowing Lake and enjoy a cookout lunch. On day three, venture into Seattle and visit the award winning Odyssey Maritime Museum on the waterfront. (Ages 8-13)

**Creating Art Using Ideas from Famous Artists: July 7 – July 11**

Observe the great masters' works of art and use this art as inspiration to create your own artwork in the form of drawings, paintings and collages. Art students may pick the artists who give them inspiration. (Ages 6-8 and 9-12)

**Fantasy of Flight Aviation Camp: July 7 – July 11**

Board Aviation Camp for a full week of flying machines and learn what makes an airplane fly. Take guided tours of the Museum of Flight in Seattle and the Future of Flight Museum in Everett. Attend the popular "Flying through Time" and "Flight Designers" programs. We'll also tour the Museum of Flight Restoration center, Everett Community College's School of Aviation Center at Paine Field and the Boeing Everett plant where we'll watch crews assemble the 787. In addition, we'll spend an entire day at the Arlington Fly-In, watching the acrobatics of the experimental airplanes, get up-close views of some cool airplanes and meet the pilots who fly them. (Age 9 and up)

To register and/or learn more about these and other Parks summer programs, visit [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org) and search "recreation schedule."

**McCollum Park Pool open for the summer**

On June 23, McCollum Park Pool opened for the summer. McCollum Park is home to Snohomish County Parks' only public swimming pool and sees thousands of visitors each summer. The pool offers swim lessons Monday through Friday with open swim sessions scheduled throughout the afternoon and early evening hours.

To register for swim lessons or to learn when open swim sessions are held, please visit [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org) and search "McCollum Park."

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 **Land-clearing burning no longer allowed**

As directed by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA), all land-clearing burning is prohibited in unincorporated Snohomish County as of July 1.

Snohomish County will continue to issue Residential Burn Permits. Burn permits are required and issued by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office as well as participating local fire districts. Residential Burn Permits, which cost \$30, will only be issued for parcels located outside the Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) and established No Burn Zones and that are within fire protection districts of unincorporated Snohomish County.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to have the permit on site at all times. Permission to burn under a permit may be suspended or cancelled without notice by any of the following agencies: Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, any other federal, state or county agency having jurisdiction.

The applicant is required to call the Outdoor Burning Information Line at 425-388-3508 to verify there are no burn bans or burning limitations that may have been ordered due to high fire danger or poor air-quality conditions.

Burning should be conducted from dawn to dusk only. Fires should be extinguished at dusk. The fire must not include garbage, dead animals, asphalt, petroleum products, paints, rubber products, plastics, paper (other than what is necessary to start a fire), cardboard, treated wood, construction/demolition debris, metal or any substance other than natural vegetation that normally releases toxic emissions, dense smoke or obnoxious odors when burned.

Recreational and cooking-preparation fires, as defined by PSCAA, still are allowed under current rules and conditions.

For more information on types of burning allowed and requirements for burning, go to [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org) (keyword "burn info") or call the Fire Marshal's Office at 425-388-3557

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***Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.***

***If you would like to send me your comments and feedback, or if you would like to unsubscribe, simply reply to this message.***

***You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.***

