



**News Release – July 1, 2015**  
***For Immediate Release***

## **Snohomish County Council urges safety when celebrating July 4<sup>th</sup>**

On Wednesday July 1, 2015 the Snohomish County Council passed a resolution urging county residents to use extreme caution when using fireworks as part of their July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations this year.

High temperatures and a lack of rainfall have created unusually dry conditions across Snohomish County. Governor Jay Inslee declared a statewide drought emergency on May 15<sup>th</sup> and the Snohomish County Fire Marshall issued a countywide burn ban on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

“It’s always important that people use only legal fireworks and that they do so in a responsible manner” said Council Chairman Dave Somers. “However, given the presence of such dry conditions, we cannot stress enough how critical it is for our residents to take every precaution.”

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, the Snohomish Fire District One Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution asking the Snohomish County Council to ban the sale and discharge of fireworks, except for professional displays, in unincorporated Snohomish County.

However, state law (RCW 70.77.2500) requires that “any ordinances adopted by a county or city that are more restrictive than state law shall have an effective date no sooner than one year after their adoption.”

The Council resolution encourages residents discharging fireworks to be courteous of neighbors, clean up litter, following instructions on firework labels, and ensure they are only discharging fireworks in a safe location.

Snohomish County Code (SCC 30.53A.722) restricts the discharge of fireworks in unincorporated Snohomish County to July 4th from 9AM to 11:59PM.

Penalties range from \$105 to more than \$500 for any individual found to be in possession or having discharged illegal fireworks.

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