

Oak Hill Fire Department
Travis County Emergency Services District #3

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June 27, 2012

4th of July Safety

Residents in the Oak Hill area are encouraged to enjoy a safe 4th of July. The threat of wildfires has returned with sustained temperatures well above the 100 degree mark today. After receiving rain this spring, the grasses and brush in our area have grown larger but the return of higher temperatures has now dried this larger vegetation, warranting closer attention to safety in the Wildland Urban Interface we live in.

On Tuesday, June 26th, the Travis County Commissioners Court implemented a burn ban, making it illegal to engage in any outdoor burning of yard waste or tree trimmings. Residents are encouraged to call 911 if they see smoke so that emergency crews can be alerted and respond to assess the situation.

It is also fireworks season with fireworks available for sale to the public from June 17th to July 4th. The Oak Hill Fire Department suggests the following tips to help make this 4th of July as safe as possible.

- If you plan on using fireworks, make sure you know how the firework is designed to function prior to lighting so that appropriate planning can be made for any fallout of sparks or hot remains of the fireworks. Water down areas where fireworks fallout is possible.
- Keep lawns trimmed low, collect grass clippings, and water your lawn during the time when fireworks have a higher potential of catching this type of vegetation on fire.
- Ensure your gutters are clean and free of debris that could hold and catch fire from falling sparks or fireworks remains.
- In the event of a fire in the area, please contact 911 to report the emergency and be prepared to listen for further direction from law enforcement agencies.
- Residents should be familiar with the Ready, Set, Go! program concerning wildfire. Further information can be found on the Oak Hill Fire Department's website at <http://www.OakHillFire.org/esddocs/ReadySetGoTexasBooklet.pdf>.
- Drink plenty of water or sports replenishment beverages. Call 911 immediately if you suspect heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Take periodic breaks when working outdoors.
- Join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OakHillFireDept and watch for more updates regarding safety news or current events information.