



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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NEWS RELEASE



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INCREASED FINES UP TO \$1000 IN EFFECT FOR 4th of JULY HOLIDAY

The County of Santa Cruz wishes to remind residents and visitors that fireworks are prohibited in most of Santa Cruz County, including on all beaches.

Illegal fireworks can be a threat to public safety, spark wildfires, and be harmful to the environment, vulnerable residents, and pets. Increased fines of up to \$1,000 are in effect during the 4th of July holiday. The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office will be increasing enforcement and patrols, particularly in coastal neighborhoods.

The following are reminders to help residents and visitors enjoy a successful and safe 4th of July holiday and avoid fines:

- Fireworks of any kind are not allowed in unincorporated Santa Cruz County and are banned on all beaches.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on public beaches or in public outside of commercial establishments or residences. Fines of up to \$1,000 are in effect around the 4th of July holiday.
- If you see what looks like a homemade explosive, stay back, call 911, and wait for law enforcement.
- Pack your trash! We don't want garbage on our beaches.
- If your pet is disturbed by loud noises, exercise them before sunset and keep them indoors in a quiet, safe environment. Consult with your veterinarian about further ways to alleviate anxiety if you know your pet is seriously distressed by loud noises.
- Have fun! Enjoy the time with family and friends, but leave fireworks to the pros.

For more information, visit <https://www.santacruzcountyca.gov/Fireworks.aspx>.