

# Summertime Burn Safety Tips

The Grossman Burn Center at St. Luke's Medical Center offers some tips to keep your family safe during these summer months.

## Firework Safety

The Fourth of July is an exciting and fun holiday for all families. The safest way to enjoy fireworks and prevent burn injuries is to attend displays given by trained professionals.

- Each year approximately 12,000 people are treated in hospitals for firework-related injuries.
  - One out of every three people injured are children under the age of 15.
  - The most commonly injured areas are the hands, eyes, head, face and ears.
- Do not let your children play with fireworks. Although they seem harmless, sparklers are responsible for one-third of related injuries to children under the age of five and can reach an upwards of 1800 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Keep children from picking up pieces of fireworks after an event. Some may still be ignited and can explode at any time.



## Campfire Safety

- Keep children at a safe distance from campfires by creating a "safety circle" at least four feet from the edge of the fire.
- Do not let children play around the campfire. Most burns happen when children fall or walk into the campfire by accident.
- To extinguish a campfire, douse the fire with water instead of sand, and then stir it with a shovel so the fire does not retain the heat.
- Keep in mind that hot coals and ashes from the day before may still be hot enough to burn the skin. An adult should be able to put his or her hand directly over the ashes without feeling heat to know the fire is out.
- Never leave a campfire unattended.



Source: [aboutkidshealth.ca](http://aboutkidshealth.ca), [burnprevention.org](http://burnprevention.org), [kidshealth.org](http://kidshealth.org)



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## — Minor Burns —

Minor burns only cover a small area of the body.

### DO:

- Calm the burn with cool water for 15-20 minutes.
- Leave blisters intact.
- Protect the area from heat, sun and dirt.
- Wash wound gently with mild soap and water.

### DO NOT:

- Put butter, toothpaste, mayonnaise or anything similar on a burn. This may cause infection.

Seek immediate medical attention if:

- Pain, swelling or redness increases.
- A fever is present.
- The victim is less than two years old.
- The burn looks white or leathery.

For larger or more serious burns, seek immediate medical attention.



David Soria was burned over 71% of his body and transferred to the Grossman Burn Center. For more information about this amazing story of survival, please visit [stlukesmedcenter.com](http://stlukesmedcenter.com) or scan the QR code below.

