



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services*



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STEPHEN D. COAN
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

June 16, 2010

Dear Scituate Beach Association Members:

The Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Scituate Police Department, the Scituate Fire Department and the State Police are asking for your cooperation this year to ensure a safe Fourth of July holiday.

We want to alert you and your members that we will be conducting a joint operation in Scituate to enforce the laws on fireworks, bon fires and public conduct. We will be having increased police patrols of Scituate Police, Plymouth County Sheriffs, and State Police members of the Bomb Squad and Fire and Explosion Investigation Unit in the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

The use of all fireworks by private citizens is illegal in Massachusetts. The ban includes sparklers, firecrackers, bottle rockets, and any other so-called consumer fireworks. All fireworks will be confiscated and in addition, violators can be fined \$100 for possession. The State Fire Marshal will hold a hearing on the professional license of any identified licensed fireworks shooter found to be conducting an unpermitted and unsupervised display.

All bon fires will be illegal and in violation of open burning laws. Insurance industry experts tell us that a property owner who allows for an increased hazard, such as an illegal bon fire too close to the house, could find themselves unable to collect on their insurance policy should it cause property damage. More importantly, emergency room physicians are concerned about the number of children and of inebriated adults who fall into bon fires and injure themselves.

We are asking for your cooperation and your assistance in this effort by letting your members know. If you have any questions, please contact the Scituate Police Department at 781 545-1212.

Yours truly,

Stephen D. Coan
State Fire Marshal

Richard A. Judge
Scituate Fire Chief

Brian E. Stewart
Scituate Police Chief

*Administrative Services • Division of Fire Safety
Hazardous Materials Response • Massachusetts Firefighting Academy*