

MEDIA RELEASE

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BCM urges residents to use fireworks considerately

Buffalo City Municipality Public Safety Department is urging residents to be considerate when discharging fireworks during the Guy Fawkes Day to be celebrated tomorrow.

The Municipality Law Enforcement unit and South African Police Services will be out in full swing to clampdown people who discharge fireworks illegally.

If a person is caught using firecrackers in undesignated areas, they will face the full might of the law as prescribed with the contraventions of the Municipal By-laws.

Ngwenya urges residents to adhere to the following Municipal By-law requirements before discharging fireworks:

- * Application to discharge fireworks to be made at Fire Department
- * A layout drawing of the discharge site must be submitted when applying for discharging fireworks
- * A minimum safety distance of 50 meters from the public and buildings must be ensured
- * No fireworks must be discharged after 22h00
- * No person will be allowed to discharge fireworks without a written permission from Buffalo city Fire Department

The Municipality appeals to pet owners to keep their animals indoors as soon as it gets dark, and to close the windows and draw the curtains in order to lessen the acute discomfort terror that they can suffer when fireworks are discharged.

A child under the age of 16 is not allowed to handle or use fireworks, except if they are supervised by an adult. Retailers may not sell fireworks to a minor or child under the age of 16.

Residents can call the City's Fire Department Emergency switchboard during Guy Fawkes Day on 043 705 9000.

Ends

