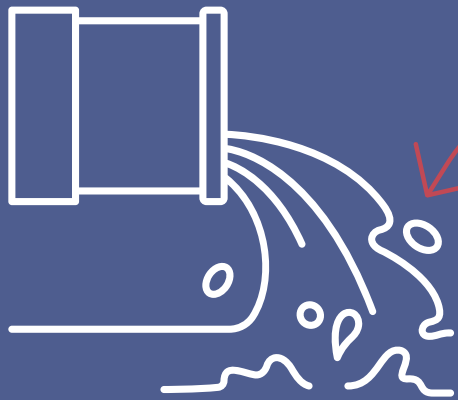


# FIREWORKS CLEANUP

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

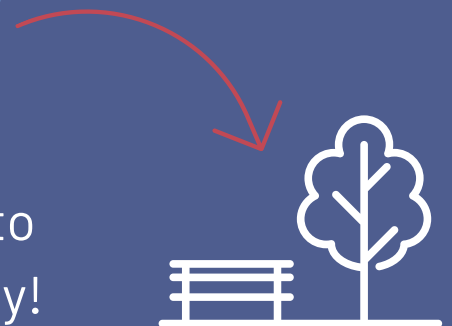


Fireworks contain toxic pollutants, including heavy metals & sulfur-coal compounds. These chemicals create colors & effects in fireworks, but can leave behind harmful pollution that negatively impacts people, wildlife, & natural resources.



Cleaning up fireworks debris helps prevent these chemicals from entering storm drains on the street, which flow to rivers & streams without being filtered first.

Preventing fireworks pollution helps protect our local waterways & urban ecosystem - the neighborhoods & parks where we live & play.



# FIREWORKS CLEANUP TIPS



## Help your Neighbors

In the days following fireworks, help keep our community clean by picking up fireworks litter.



## Safety First

Wear gloves & use caution when picking up fireworks debris. Stay alert & use caution when working along streets & curbsides.



## Grab Your Supplies

Gather your gloves, plastic trash bags, broom & dust pan.



## Sweep & Bag

Bag up spent fireworks then sweep the area to collect dust & small debris. Seal the bag & place it in the trash.



## DISCUSSION

### *DID YOU KNOW?*

- Various metal compounds found in fireworks create different colors at various temperatures (e.g., lithium (Li) makes pink & sodium (Na) makes yellow or orange.
- Rain & snow melt flow over streets & sidewalks, carrying pollutants with it. Along with fireworks debris, other forms of stormwater pollution include yardwaste, pet waste, motor oil, fertilizers, & chemicals in urban runoff.

### *WHAT DO YOU THINK?*

- Why is cleaning up fireworks litter so important?
- What happens to litter when we don't collect it?
- What & who does litter impact?
- What other things get washed down storm drains?
- How does pollution affect our urban ecosystem?

# LEARN MORE, DO MORE



## Organize or Join a Neighborhood Fireworks Cleanup

Plan ahead & organize a cleanup after your celebration. Promote your event at a local parade, at school, on Next Door, or at your neighborhood association meeting. Ask KOB to list your cleanup on the [Community Cleanup Map](#) -- or view the map to join in cleanup events near you!



## Spread the Word

Talk about the importance of pollution prevention with your friends, family, & neighbors. Share KOB's [fireworks cleanup guide](#) with them.



## Explore More

Learn how the [chemistry of fireworks](#) pollute the air & water, and why firework pollution is an [environmental justice concern](#).



## Check out KOB's Stormwater Resources

Learn about [common sources of stormwater pollution](#) & the simple things you can do to help make a difference.



## Volunteer with KOB

Sign up for a [volunteer project](#) that benefits our community, such as marking storm drains, litter cleanups, or helping with special events & projects.

