



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF SCHENECTADY
NEW YORK

Gary R. McCarthy
Mayor

City Hall, 105 Jay Street, Rm 111
Schenectady, N.Y. 12305-1938
(518) 382-5000
Fax: (518) 382-5272
gmccarthy@schenectadyny.gov

For Release: Immediate
Date: July 3, 2012

Contact: Mayor's Office
(518) 382-5000

PRESS ADVISORY

MAYOR GARY R. McCARTHY
Wishes Everyone a Happy and Safe 4th of July!

Schenectady Mayor Gary McCarthy today wished everyone a happy and safe 4th of July holiday.

“Fireworks are a traditional part of our Independence Day celebrations, but they can be extremely dangerous. There are twice the number of fires reported on July 4th than on any other day of the year in the United States. The lighting of fireworks should be left to trained professionals. Pyrotechnicians know how to handle fireworks explosives properly. Public displays can be viewed safely, from an appropriate distance, usually at least 500 feet,” stated McCarthy.

“Never let children play with fireworks of any type. Almost 10,000 fireworks related injuries occur every year in the United States and over a quarter of those are children under the age of 15. It is also estimated that one in every six fireworks-related eye injuries results in permanent vision loss or blindness.” “The possession, use and/or sale of fireworks are a violation of the New York State Penal Law. Those individuals found in possession of fireworks are subject to arrest.”

McCarthy concluded “The 4th of July is a great day in the history of the United States and everyone should celebrate it safely.”