



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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TO: The MIT Community
FROM: The MIT Campus Police Department
DATE: June 30, 2004
RE: 4th of July - Safety Precaution

Please be advised that this year's traditional fireworks celebration on the Esplanade will be held Sunday night, July 4th, 2004. In view of the tremendous influx of crowds to the Cambridge/Boston Charles River area for this celebration, we seek your cooperation with the following:

- 1) In an effort to reduce thefts and increase safety, please secure all office doors and accessible windows. This will help to reduce the chances of outsiders wandering into MIT buildings. Outsiders may try to gain access due to the excellent view of the fireworks, convenience of bathrooms or the opportunity to steal unlocked and unattended items - computers, compact disc, digital cameras or the typical wallets and cash.
- 2) Please also be advised that Massachusetts General Law, Ch. 148 S. 39 - the simple possession or use of fireworks, or the selling or offering for sale of fireworks is against the law. A violation of this law shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year or both. Additionally, the throwing or shooting of fireworks off the rooftops is strictly prohibited. This practice may result in serious injuries to people and property below, and rooftop fires.
- 3) REMEMBER: There is a \$50.00 fine for being on the rooftop of an Academic building and a \$500.00 fine for being on the rooftop of Building 54.

Our best wishes for a happy and safe Fourth of July. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation on this festive occasion. For more information on the best viewing sites of the fireworks see <http://www.july4th.org/>. Note: this year there will be no sound towers on the Memorial Drive side of the Charles River.