

5 Budding VERDANT

Happy Fire and Explosion Day!!

This one of the favorite celebrations for witches, because we *LOVE* fires and explosions. But first we had better start with a safety moment. When starting a fire, always observe the proper precautions and follow your approved fire starting procedure. When setting off explosions, always use remotely operated detonators, place explosive material only in safe locations, and make sure the area is clear of all animals before igniting. And it should go without saying, but we will say it anyway, that you can only burn and blow up things that you own; it is absolutely forbidden to go randomly destroying things that are not yours to destroy!

Witches usually only have fires and explosions for the fun of it. This day is also the favorite day of EOD Techs, who use explosions on a daily basis for practical purposes. For EOD Techs, today is the day to recognize the dangerous work they do, to honor their efforts for improving public safety, and take the time to reflect on the dual nature of explosives: they are both deadly and potentially life saving.

So how should we celebrate? The most obvious way is with a bonfire! But since we do bonfires on every chance we get, it would be great to have something extra special to do today also.

Ideally we should arrange for some explosions. One of the easier and safer ways to do this is to shoot off some Tannerite. That is readily available, easy to use, and safe as long as all the instructions are strictly and accurately followed. Note that most shooting ranges do not allow the use of Tannerite because of its destructive effects on the backstop, so FOLLOW ALL RANGE RULES! Tannerite is also not allowed to be used on most public wild lands, where many people practice shooting, because of the fire hazard. So you'll need to do some investigation to find a safe and appropriate location.

If you happen to know a licensed blaster or an EOD tech, then you have even more exciting options available. Perhaps your ducks would like a new pond. Today is the day to blast one in! Arrange with your friendly local blaster to have that done today (which obviously means you should have started arranging a couple 8ums ago) Then when the hole is blasted, build a huge bonfire in it and drink a lot of wine to dedicate it. When the spring rains come it will fill with water and your ducks will love it!!

Have a fun and safe Fire and Explosion Day!