

Office of the State Fire Marshal

A Bureau of the Washington State Patrol

Celebrate Legally Fireworks Enforcement Campaign

Descriptions of Legal Fireworks Devices and Illegal Explosive Devices

Legal Fireworks

RCW 70.77.136 "Consumer fireworks" means any small firework device designed to produce visible effects by combustion and which must comply with the construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations of the United States consumer product safety commission, as set forth in 16 C.F.R. Parts 1500 and 1507 and including some small devices designed to produce audible effects, such as whistling devices, ground devices containing 50 mg or less of explosive materials, and aerial devices containing 130 mg or less of explosive materials and classified as fireworks UN0336 by the United States department of transportation at 49 C.F.R. Sec. 172.101 as of June 13, 2002, and not including fused set pieces containing components which together exceed 50 mg of salute powder.

SPARKLER:	Stick or wire coated with pyrotechnic composition that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition.
CYLINDRICAL FOUNTAIN:	Cylindrical tubes containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, a shower of colored sparks and sometimes a whistling effect are produced. This device may be provided with a spike for insertion into the ground (spike foundation) or a wood or plastic base for placing on the ground (base foundation).
CONE FOUNTAIN:	Cardboard or heavy paper cone containing pyrotechnic composition. The effect is the same as that of a cylindrical fountain.
ILLUMINATING TORCH:	Cylindrical tube containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, colored fire is produced.
WHEEL:	Pyrotechnic device attached to a post or tree by means of a nail. Each wheel may contain up to six driver units containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, the wheel revolves producing a shower of color, sparks and sometimes a whistling effect.
GROUND SPINNER:	Small device similar to a wheel in design and effect, placed on the ground and ignited. The rapidly spinning device produces a shower of sparks and color.
FLITTER SPARKLER:	Narrow paper tube containing pyrotechnic composition, which produces color and sparks upon ignition. This device does not have a fuse for ignition. The paper at one end of the tube is ignited to make the device function.
MINE/SHELL:	Heavy cardboard or paper tube attached to a wood or plastic base and containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, "stars" or other devices are propelled into the air. The tube remains on the ground.
COMBINATION ITEMS:	Firework devices containing a combination of two or more of the effects described in this section.
SMOKE DEVICE:	Tube or sphere containing pyrotechnic composition which, upon ignition, produces white or colored smoke as the primary effect.
HELICOPTER AERIAL SPINNER:	A tube containing pyrotechnic composition. A propeller or blade is attached which, upon ignition, lifts the rapidly spinning device into the air. A visible or audible effect is produced at the height of the flight.
ROMAN CANDLE:	Heavy paper or cardboard tube containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, up to ten "stars" (pellets of pressed pyrotechnic composition that burn with bright colors) are individually expelled at several-second intervals.

Fireworks Legal on Tribal Land

Firecrackers, bottle rockets, missiles and rockets are legal to possess and discharge on tribal lands. These items are illegal in Washington State and become illegal fireworks when possessed off tribal lands.

Illegal Explosive Devices

M-80's and larger, dynamite and any improvised, homemade or altered explosive devices such as tennis balls or cherry bombs are illegal explosive devices. Persons in possession or using illegal explosive devices can and should be charged with a felony.

ILLEGAL EXPLOSIVE DEVICES AND FIREWORKS THAT ARE ILLEGAL UNDER WASHINGTON STATE LAW

ILLEGAL EXPLOSIVE DEVICES in Washington State

M-80's and larger, dynamite and any improvised homemade devices. Persons in possession or using illegal explosives devices can be charged with a felony.

M-80, M-150, M-200, M-500, M-600, M-1000, M-1300, M-3500 Tennis Ball Bombs, Sparkler Bombs, and other homemade or altered fireworks.



Fireworks ILLEGAL in Washington State

1.4G Fireworks that are legal to sell & discharge on Tribal Land but cannot be taken or discharged off Tribal Land.

Bottle/Sky Rockets - Tubes 1/2" (12.5 mm) contains 20 grams pyrotechnic composition.

Missiles - type Rocket

Firecrackers, Salutes - 2 grains (130 mg) of explosive composition.



WASHINGTON STATE LEGAL FIREWORKS SOLD IN LICENSED FIREWORK STANDS AND TENTS

Cylindrical Fountain

Cylindrical tubes not more than 3/4 inch (19 mm) inside diameter, containing up to 75 grams of pyrotechnic composition.



Cone Fountain

Cardboard or heavy paper cone containing up to 50 grams of pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 200 grams.



Wheels

Each wheel may contain up to six "driver" unit, tubes exceeding 1/2 inch (12.5 mm) inside diameter containing up to 60 grams of pyrotechnic composition. Total pyrotechnic composition of each wheel shall not exceed 240 grams.



Ground Spinners

Same device containing not more than 20 grams of pyrotechnic composition. Similar in operation to a wheel but intended to be placed flat on the ground and ignited.



Helicopters, Aerial Spinners

Helicopter, aerial spinner. A tube containing not more than 20 grams of pyrotechnic composition. A propeller or blade is attached, which, upon ignition, lifts the rapidly spinning device into the air. A visible or audible effect is produced at the height of flight.



Roman Candles

Heavy paper or cardboard tube containing up to 20 grams of pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, stars are individually expelled at several intervals.



Mine / Shells

Heavy cardboard or paper tube up to 2 1/2 inches inside diameter attached to a wood or plastic base and containing up to 40 grams of pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, stars or other devices are propelled into the air; the tube remains on the ground.



Reloadables Mortars

A 1 3/4 or smaller cardboard tube in which aerial shells are discharged into the air.



Smoke Devices

Tube or sphere containing pyrotechnic composition that upon ignition produces white or colored smoke as a primary effect.



Parachutes

Upon ignition one or more parachutes propelled into the air with stars, smoke and other effects being discharged as the parachute floats downward.



Dipped Stick, Sparkler

Stick, or wire coated with pyrotechnic composition that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition. Total pyrotechnic composition may not exceed 100 grams per item. Wire sparklers which contain no magnesium and which contains less than 100 grams of composition per item, Class "C" explosives under DOT regulations.



Novelties Non Firework Items

"Trick & Novelty devices" shall mean any small firework device not classified as consumer or display fireworks by the United States Department of Transportation or elsewhere in these rules, including: Snakes, Glow Worms, Trick Noisemakers, Snapper.

Party Poppers - Small plastic or paper item containing not more than 16 mg of explosive composition that is friction sensitive.



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Fireworks Safety

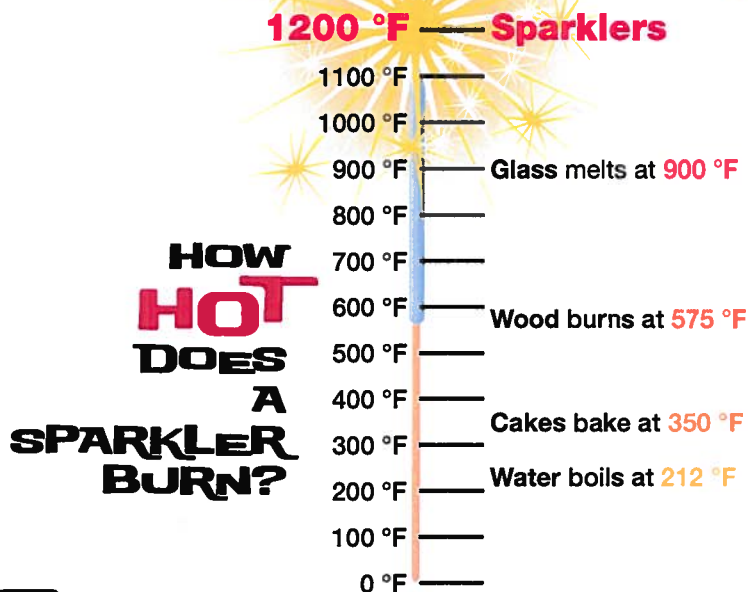
Fireworks during the Fourth of July are as American as apple-pie, but did you know that more fires are reported on that day than on any other day of the year in the United States? Nearly half of these fires are caused by fireworks. The good news is you can enjoy your holiday and the fireworks, with just a few simple safety tips:

PROCEED WITH CAUTION!

- » Leave fireworks to the professionals. Do not use consumer fireworks.
- » The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display conducted by trained professionals.
- » After the firework display, children should never pick up fireworks that may be left over, they may still be active.

CONSUMER FIREWORKS

include sparklers and firecrackers. The tip of a sparkler burns at a temperature of more than **1,200 degrees Fahrenheit**, which is hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



FACTS

- ! Each July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks.
- ! The risk of fireworks injury is more than twice as high for children ages 10–14 as for the general population.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education