CONSUMER FIREWORKS

Iowa Code changes in 2017 made sale and use of fireworks legal. A City Council or County Board of Supervisors can limit or prohibit use.

There are a number of requirements and safety concerns to keep in mind. The following are some key points. More information is available on the State Fire Marshal web pages and City of Bettendorf web pages.

❖ Only shoot consumer fireworks on designated dates and times:
  ▪ July 3 and July 4 from 2 pm until 11 pm
  ▪ December 31 from 10 pm until 12:30 am January 1

❖ Only shoot fireworks on your property or on a property where permission has been given.

❖ Use of consumer fireworks is prohibited on City of Bettendorf properties including parks. Use of consumer fireworks is also prohibited on school grounds.

❖ Persons under the age of 18 cannot buy fireworks.

❖ Persons under the age of 18 can only shoot fireworks with direct adult supervision.

❖ Do not shoot fireworks if intoxicated or impaired.

❖ Keep a distance of at least 20 feet from buildings, property lines and when lighting fireworks. Predict the unexpected to avoid injury.

❖ Consumer fireworks can cause injury, death, fire or property damage if handled recklessly or in a manner not intended.

❖ You own the liability for shooting any fireworks device.

❖ Never disassemble fireworks or handle fireworks powers.

❖ There are penalties that for violating fireworks laws.
  ▪ First Offense $250
  ▪ Second Offense $400
  ▪ Third Offense $625

Please celebrate responsively!
CONSUMER FIREWORKS SALES
Information for Persons Interested in Selling Consumer Fireworks

Under the Iowa law passed in 2017, sales of fireworks at permanent buildings can occur from June 1 to July 8 and from December 10 to January 3 each year. Fireworks sales at temporary structures may only occur between June 13 and July 8. A person must be 18 years or older to buy fireworks.

**State Fire Marshal Consumer Fireworks Annual Retail Sales License** You must complete a license application form and submit it along with required documentation to the State Fire Marshal’s Office. This application will be available on the State Fire Marshal website. [www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/building/licensing/consumerfireworksindex.shtml](http://www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/building/licensing/consumerfireworksindex.shtml)

Prior to submitting an application to the State Fire Marshal it will be helpful to you to contact Community Development Director Bill Connors to determine if the property is in a zone where sales of consumer fireworks sales is a permitted use.

**City License**

In addition to the State Fire Marshal License it will be necessary to obtain a City of Bettendorf license.
- Contact Michelle Spencer
Fireworks are synonymous with our celebration of Independence Day. Yet, the thrill of fireworks can also bring pain. 230 people on average go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has information about fireworks injuries and fireworks safety.

- View the Fireworks Injuries Infographic
- Read the OnSafety Blog
- View the Fireworks Poster

Remember, fireworks can be dangerous, causing serious burn and eye injuries. You can help us prevent fireworks-related injuries and deaths. How? By working with a national, state or local organization where you live to promote fireworks safety in your community.

Follow these safety tips when using fireworks:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks that are packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.

Information from United States Consumer Product Safety Commission