

Fireworks in Minnesota

The sale, possession and use of some non-explosive and non-aerial consumer fireworks are now permitted in Minnesota.

These consumer fireworks may not be used on public property (i.e. parks, roads, alleys, schools, government property, etc.). Purchasers of these fireworks must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and retailers need to check photo identification.

Emergency Room Data

Age	1999	2004
0-9	4	35
10-19	11	34

Dollar Loss

	1999	2003
Jun/Jul	\$9,001	\$623,150
Year total	\$63,001	\$2,340,731

What can I do?

Fireworks are associated with many injuries each year. The following safety guidelines are offered to reduce fireworks injuries, fires and nuisance complaints:

- Read, understand and follow the instructions on each device prior to using.
- Use fireworks with close adult supervision.
- Choose a safe place to use fireworks that is far from anything that could be damaged

from the normal or abnormal operation of any device. Fireworks should only be ignited outdoors and away from animals, buildings, storage tanks, brush or combustible materials.

- Anyone acting in an irresponsible manner or who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs should not handle or discharge fireworks.
- Keep fireworks away from small children and store them in a cool dry location away from sources of ignition (heat and flames). Fireworks should not be allowed to become wet and should not be used when dried after becoming wet.

- Do not carry fireworks in your pocket or on your person.

- Lit cigarettes, cigars, pipes or open flames should be kept away from fireworks that are for sale or when stored.

- Never ignite fireworks inside another container, such as inside a bottle or can.

- Eye protection is recommended for those using fireworks. Never throw fireworks or aim them at another person, animal or building.

- Only light one firework device at a time, then move away from the device quickly. Keep clear of any device that has been ignited, but has yet to go off.

- If a firework device has been ignited but fails to go off, stay clear of the device for an extended period of time to prevent injury due to delayed activation. Soak the device in water before handling it.

- Never place any part of your body, especially your head, over the firework device when lighting. Approach the item from the side and light while keeping your body away from the item.

- Never relight malfunctioning fireworks. Report any defects back to the seller or the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

- Never experiment with fireworks, make your own fireworks, or alter fireworks in any manner (a strong federal prohibition exists for such activity).

Examples of items that are permitted include sparklers, cones and tubes that emit sparks, novelty items like snakes, and party poppers.

Explosive and aerial fireworks are prohibited for public sale, possession and use in the State of Minnesota. Prohibited fireworks include, but are not limited to firecrackers, bottle rockets, missiles, roman candles, mortars and shells.

Please review the list of examples of legal and illegal fireworks at WWW.FIRE.STATE.MN.US

Personal Responsibility

We all have a responsibility to ensure the safety of ourselves and those around us. Setting a good example and acting in a responsible manner will help us enjoy our celebrations without danger. Contact Fire Marshal Jerry Strich @ 763-427-4452 if you have questions.