

Celebrate Safely Campaign
Safety Information for the Use of Permissible Consumer Fireworks

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

FIREWORKS ENFORCEMENT & SAFETY UNIT
(603) 223-4289 Office Monday – Friday 8:15am to 4:00pm
<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/firesafety/specialoperations/fireworks/index.html>
Email: fmo.fireworks@dos.nh.gov

Updated: May 23, 2018

Celebrating safely also involves the three “B’s”:

“Be Prepared” before lighting fireworks.

- 1) Purchase only New Hampshire Permissible Fireworks, available at licensed retail stores throughout the state.
- 2) Purchase **ONLY** the quantity that you will use.
- 3) Permissible fireworks can **ONLY** be displayed on property that you own, or you must have written permission from the landowner.
- 4) Read and adhere to all safety information and warning labels.
- 5) Request additional safety information from the licensed retailer if you are not familiar with a device.
- 6) Have a water hose or fire extinguisher nearby in case of an unanticipated fire.
- 7) Create a clear, level surface to display your permissible fireworks away from things that can burn, or easily ignite.
- 8) Check with your local fire department for the fire weather conditions in your area.
- 9) Call 911 **immediately** in the event of a fire or medical emergency, don’t wait!

“Be Safe” when lighting fireworks.

- 10) Adults 21 years of age or older should be only possessing and displaying permissible fireworks.
- 11) Always wear eye / ear protection, gloves, and clothing that cannot easily ignite.

12) Always READ the safety directions provided on each firework device or package.

13) Light only one device at a time and move away quickly.

14) Keep all spectators at a safe distance. Some consumer firework devices have safety distances for each device.

15) Display fireworks only outdoors, away from anything that can burn, or easily ignite.

16) Be considerate of your neighbors, family pets and the environment. You could held be liable for damages to another's property.

“Be responsible” when finished.

17) Clean up all debris when finished.

18) Devices that do not fire once they are lit are very dangerous; if a firework device does not discharge keep away for ten minutes or more, then ensure that it has been filled with water, or placed in a bucket of water.

19) Always make sure that unused fireworks, matches and lighters are secured and out of the reach of children.

Please, **“Be Prepared”**, **“Be Safe”**, and **“Be Responsible”** when using New Hampshire Permissible Fireworks and celebrate safely in all of your events, or celebrations **fil**

National Injury Statistics:

Annually, the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that there are approximately 11,900 firework related injuries treated each year in U.S. hospital emergency departments.

New Hampshire State Law:

What are Permissible Fireworks? Permissible Fireworks are consumer firework devices that have been made legal for sale, possession and use here in New Hampshire, and can be purchased in any of our licensed retail stores statewide.

Requirements:

- 1) Anyone interested in purchasing, possessing or using Permissible Fireworks must be at least 21 years of age.
- 2) Shall only be used on private property which you own, or have written permission from the land owner, or be in the owner's presence.
- 3) Must follow **ALL** locally adopted local ordinances. For a list of community restrictions please visit:
<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/firesafety/specialoperations/fireworks/documents/COMMUNITYRESTRICTIONSlist.pdf>
- 4) You can be held liable in any civil action for damages to another's property.

Types of Permissible Fireworks:

- ~ Cylindrical Fountains
- ~ Cone Fountains
- ~ Ground Spinners
- ~ Helicopters, Aerial Spinners
- ~ Roman Candles
- ~ Mines / Cakes / Shells
- ~ Reloadable Mortars
- ~ Parachutes
- ~ Firecrackers
- ~ Novelties – Party Poppers, Snaps, and Snakes.
- ~ Smoke devices containing less than 100g of pyrotechnic composition.
- ~ Bottle /Sky Rockets / Missiles
- ~ Sparklers, Morning Glories



Illegally Manufactured Explosive Devices

Illegally manufactured explosive devices are frequently referred to as fireworks because of their resemblance to a large firecracker. These items are commonly known as M-80's, M-100's, M-250's, M-500's, Cherry Bombs, Quarter Sticks, and Blockbusters. These devices and others of like construction are federally banned by the Child Safety Act, and never should be referred to as fireworks.

WARNING

Illegal explosive devices **are not fireworks**. These devices must be treated and handled as explosive devices as they are capable of causing severe injury or even death. If you find someone in possession of, and/or selling illegal explosive devices **IMMEDIATELY** notify your local police or fire department, or the New Hampshire Department of Safety at (603) 271-3636.

Please remember, the safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a professional display. To learn more about a community sponsored firework display near you, contact your local fire department for available dates and times