

Summary Page

Responsible Use of Fireworks - Vendors

BACKGROUND

This summary page was requested at the [August 8, 2023](#), Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services by Councillor Gough for *the Administration provide additional reporting about opportunity to engage further with vendors to promote responsible and permitted use of fireworks.*

Current Approach

Bylaw No. 7990, The Fire and Protective Services Bylaw (Bylaw 7990) requires retailers who sell fireworks to [submit an application](#) to obtain a fireworks sale permit from the SFD prior to selling. The permit requires the seller to have the following in place and completed prior to selling product.

- Certificate of public liability insurance in place.
- Employees selling fireworks must be aware of their responsibilities. All employees must read the Natural Resources Canada (NRC) selling [Consumer Fireworks Retail Package](#) information. As part of the internal package, the vendor, and all their employees, must understand the requirements of the Explosive Act and Regulations and sign and submit an SFD Consumer Fireworks Employee Sign-off Sheet (Appendix 1).
- May sell only to a person 18 years of age or older.
- Sell only low hazard fireworks and specified type fireworks.
- Sellers must conform with the *Explosives Act* and its Regulations, and *The National Fire Code*.
- With each sale, provide the consumer Saskatoon Fire Department Bulletin 10-11 “Safety Instructions for Firing Consumer Fireworks” (Appendix 2)

The SFD ensures vendors are provided the info package and the vendors are directed to adhere to all regulations outlined within the package. Stores found not to have a vendor’s license and selling fireworks are required to suspend sales immediately and apply for a vendor’s license and may face charges dependent on circumstances found.

In regard to upcoming discharged without permit, Saskatoon Fire provides regular media releases prior to the permitted dates where fireworks may be discharged without a permit. The PSA includes safety messaging on the safe use of fireworks, permitted times to set off fireworks, how to discharge in a safe manner, and the safe disposal of the fireworks after use.

Examples of media releases:

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/news-releases/celebrating-canada-day-fireworks-0>

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/news-releases/ringing-new-year-fireworks-1>

The city website is also referred to in all PSA’s where this information is always available. [saskatoon.ca/fireworks](https://www.saskatoon.ca/fireworks).

Written by: Yvonne Raymer, Assistant Fire Chief
Brian Conway, Fire Marshal



FIRE PREVENTION & INVESTIGATION DIVISION
125 Idylwyld Drive South
Saskatoon, SK S7M 1L4
Phone: (306) 975-2578
Fax: (306) 975-2589

Bulletin 10-11

Safety Instructions **For** **Firing Consumer Fireworks**

Fireworks are permitted on private property only:

- from dusk to 11:00 pm on **Victoria Day, Canada Day and Labour Day**,
- from dusk **New Year's Eve** to 00:15 am New Year's Day.

Safety Precautions:

- Fireworks are not to be used by persons under 18 years of age without adult supervision.
- Choose a wide, clear site away from overhead obstacles (for example 30 m (100 ft) x 30 m (100 ft) for firing Roman candles) with spectators standing at the perimeter.
- Do not fire in windy conditions.
- All fallout must remain on the private property from which it was discharged.
- Read and follow all instructions on the fireworks. Plan the order of firing before you begin.
- Use a good firing base, such as pails, boxes filled with earth or sand.
- Bury fireworks half their length if they have no standing base, unless the labelling on the fireworks directs otherwise. Set them at a 10 degree angle pointing away from people.
- Never light fireworks in your hand or hold lighted fireworks in your hand, other than a sparkler.
- Light carefully. Always light the fuse at its tip.
- Keep water nearby. Dispose of used fireworks (including debris) in a pail of water or return to vendor.
- Never try to relight fireworks that did not go off. Never try to fix fireworks that are defective. Wait at least 30 minutes before approaching such fireworks.
- Keep fireworks in a cool, dry, ventilated place and in a locked container, away from children.