



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

Richard M. Flynn, Commissioner

Division of Fire Safety

Office of the State Fire Marshal

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INFORMATIONAL BULLITEN

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PERMISSIBLE FIREWORKS

With the summer months and the 4th of July closely approaching, the Office of the State Fire Marshal would like to remind everyone about the New Hampshire's Approved Permissible Fireworks Laws. Currently, New Hampshire has 758 Consumer Firework devices 1.4G, approved for retail sale in any of the 24 licensed retail sales locations statewide, ranging from sparklers to a variety of ground and aerial devices. Items considered Non-permissible Fireworks would include devices such as firecrackers, salutes, any type of bottle rocket/missiles, re-loadable aerial shells and smoke bombs and balls. Unlicensed individuals may sell only four types of permissible firework devices classified as "Novelty Fireworks". These Novelty devices include sparklers, paper snaps, party poppers and charcoal snakes.

Any one 21 years of age or older, may purchase, transport, possess and display Approved Permissible Fireworks in any community in the state, provided that the community has not prohibited the sale, possession or display by local ordinance. Permissible Fireworks may be displayed by any one 21 years of age or older, on property that the individual owns, is in the presence of, or has written permission from the landowner.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has developed a Fireworks Enforcement and Safety Guide for Police and Fire Services. This guide is designed to provide local police and fire departments with a better understanding of New Hampshire's Fireworks Laws. This guide covers state laws and administrative rules concerning Permissible Fireworks, Display Fireworks and Indoor Pyrotechnics. This guide is available to New Hampshire's Police and Fire Departments free of charge contact the State Fire Marshal's Office at (603)271-3294 for details.

Acting State Fire Marshal J. William Degnan offers the following safety tips to anyone wishing to purchase Permissible Fireworks:

- ~ Follow all state and local laws regarding the possession and display of Permissible Fireworks.
- ~ Make certain to read and follow all directions, caution and warning labels on each individual firework device.
- ~ Never allow children to handle, play with and/or light any type of fireworks.
- ~ Do not consume alcohol while handling fireworks.
- ~ Always display fireworks in a clear, open area free of overhead objects.
- ~ Always provide for a safe distance between buildings and any viewing audience.
- ~ Always light fireworks on a hard, flat and level surface to insure stability of the device.
- ~ Always ignite one device at a time
- ~ Never attempt to re-ignite, alter or fix any firework device that has failed to fire.
- ~ Always have a form of fire suppression nearby (water hose, water bucket, etc.).
- ~ Be cautious of igniting aerial devices during high wind conditions.
- ~ Never aim point, throw or shoot fireworks at another person.
- ~ Always store fireworks in a cool, dry place and dispose of properly.