

Northshore Fire Department's FIREWORKS FAQ's



I live in Kenmore/Lake Forest Park. What are the laws regarding fireworks? The sale, possession, and discharge of all personal fireworks are banned in the Cities of Kenmore and Lake Forest Park.

What is the penalty if the fireworks ordinance is violated? Any person in violation of Kenmore or Lake Forest Park's ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor, which carries a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail and/or a \$1000 fine if convicted.

What can I do about someone who sells or discharges fireworks within the city limits of Kenmore and Lake Forest Park? Any complaints regarding possession, sales or discharge of illegal fireworks should be referred to your local police department. Fireworks-related fires or injuries should be reported to the fire

department by calling 911.

Is there any other information about fireworks that I should be aware of? Parents/guardians should be aware that actions by children under the age of 18 are the legal responsibility of the parent/guardian. Misuse of fireworks causing death, injury, or property loss could incur civil liability.

What about pets and fireworks? The Humane Society encourages pet owners to keep their pets indoors and make sure their animals have identification tags in case they run away. Pets may refuse to eat, become hyperactive, or run away from home because of the noise from fireworks.

What other cities in Washington State ban fireworks?

Are there statistics available about the injuries and damages caused by fireworks?

Is there anywhere where I can legally discharge fireworks?

Visit the Washington State Patrol's website at <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/fire/fireworks.htm> for answers to the above questions. **NOTE:** There are cities that allow restricted use of fireworks. It is important to check with the city in question regarding the specific restrictions relating to the possession, sale and discharge of fireworks. .

Northshore Fire Department encourages attendance at a public fireworks display to safely enjoy your Independence Day celebration.

If using fireworks *in a jurisdiction where it is legal to do so*, Northshore Fire Department offers the following **FIREWORKS SAFETY GUIDELINES:**

- Always have a responsible adult present.
- Do not alter or experiment with fireworks - treat them with respect!
- Read and follow label directions.
- Use only legal fireworks purchased from reliable retailers licensed by the State of Washington.
- Light fireworks only outdoors, away from buildings, houses, dry fields and wooded areas.
- Never use fireworks in a crowd or throw them at people, pets, or moving vehicles.
- Light one item at a time, move away quickly and keep a safe distance away.
- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hand!
- Have water or a fire extinguisher nearby - soak used fireworks and "duds" in water before discarding them. Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- Keep pets indoors. Be sure they have identification tags in case they run away.

Parents should note that sparklers burn at approximately 1200°F. Clothing ignites at approximately 900°F. One spark from a sparkler could ignite someone's clothing, causing irreparable harm. If someone's clothes catch fire, they should Stop, Drop and Roll until the flames go out.