FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU
FIREWORKS LICENSING PROGRAM
PO Box 42600
Olympia WA 98504-2600
(360) 596-3914   FAX: (360) 596-3934

FIREWORKS WHICH MAY BE LAWFULLY PURCHASED, POSSESSED, OR DISCHARGED BY THE PUBLIC DURING THE INDEPENDENCE DAY AND NEW YEAR’S CELEBRATIONS

Check with the local authorities before discharging fireworks.

RCW 70.77.136 states: "Consumer fireworks" means any small firework device designed to produce visible effects by combustion...” and “…classified as fireworks UN0336 by the United States department of transportation...”

RCW 70.77.401 states: “No fireworks may be sold or offered for sale to the public as consumer fireworks which are classified as sky rockets, or missile-type rockets, firecrackers, salutes, or chasers as defined by the United States department of transportation and the federal consumer products safety commission...”

SPARKLER: Stick or wire coated with pyrotechnic composition that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition.

FLITTER SPARKLER: Narrow paper tube containing pyrotechnic composition which produces color and sparks upon ignition. This device does not have a fuse for ignition. The paper at one end of the tube is ignited to make the device function.

CYLINDRICAL FOUNTAIN: Cylindrical tubes containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, a shower of colored sparks and sometimes a whistling effect is produced. This device may be provided with a spike for insertion into the ground [spike fountain], a wood or plastic base for placing on the ground [base fountain], or a wood or cardboard handle if intended to be hand-held [handle fountain].

MINE/SHELL: Heavy cardboard or paper tube attached to a wood or plastic base and containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, “stars” or other devices are propelled into the air. The tube remains on the ground.

CONE FOUNTAIN: Cardboard or heavy paper cone containing pyrotechnic composition. The effect is the same as that of a cylindrical fountain.

COMBINATION ITEMS: Firework devices containing a combination of two (2) or more of the effects described in this section.

ILLUMINATING TORCH: Cylindrical tube containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, colored fire is produced. May be spike, base, or hand-held.

SMOKE DEVICE: Tube or sphere containing pyrotechnic composition which, upon ignition, produces white or colored smoke as the primary effect.

WHEEL: Pyrotechnic device attached to a post or tree by means of a nail or string. Each wheel may contain up to six driver units containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, the wheel revolves producing a shower of color and sparks and, sometimes, a whistling effect.

HELIICOPTER/AERIAL SPINNER: A tube containing pyrotechnic composition. A propeller or blade is attached which, upon ignition, lifts the rapidly spinning device into the air. A visible or audible effect is produced at the height of the flight.

GROUND SPINNERS: Small device similar to a wheel in design and effect, placed on the ground and ignited. A shower of sparks and color is produced by the rapidly spinning device.

ROMAN CANDLE: Heavy paper or cardboard tube containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, up to ten “stars” [pellets of pressed pyrotechnic composition that burn with bright color] are individually expelled at several-second intervals.

FIREWORKS THAT ARE UNLAWFUL TO PURCHASE, POSSESS, OR DISCHARGE AT ANY TIME IN WASHINGTON STATE

SKY ROCKET: Tubes that contain pyrotechnic composition. Sky rockets utilize a wooden stick for guidance and stability and rise into the air upon ignition. A burst of color or noise or both is produced at the height of flight.

MISSILE-TYPE ROCKET: A device similar to a sky rocket in size, composition, and effect that uses fins rather than a stick for guidance.

CHASER: Small paper or cardboard tube that travels along the ground upon ignition. A whistling effect or other noise is often produced.

FIRE CRACKERS/SALUTES: Small, paper-wrapped or cardboard tube containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, noise and a flash of light are produced.