Reep it legal in the City of Vancouver

Tips for a safe Fourth of July holiday

Discharge Date: July 4 from 9 a.m. to midnight

Sales Dates: July 2 to July 4

Fireworks use at any other time is prohibited without a special permit.

Buyers must be at least 16 years of age.

Fireworks may not be used in public parks.

Legal fireworks: Buy only from a licensed fireworks stand. Only buy items that are clearly labeled with the name, manufacturer and instructions for proper use. Firecrackers, bottle rockets, M-80s and M-100s are illegal and can cause serious injury or death. Illegal firework possession or use can result in a \$500 citation.

Supervise children closely: Only adults should light fireworks. Do not allow young children to play with fireworks. Older children should only be permitted to use fireworks under adult supervision. Children must be at least 16 years old and present identification to legally purchase fireworks. Be vigilant about keeping matches, lighters and fireworks safely away from youngsters.

Tribal fireworks: Fireworks sold on tribal lands may not be legal off the reservation.

Always follow directions on the label: Even sparklers, which burn at more than 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit, can be dangerous if used improperly. Light only one firework at a time and don't try to re-light a "dud." Protect your eyes and never have any portion of your body directly over fireworks.

Clear the lighting area: Light fireworks outdoors in a clear area at least 25 feet from people, houses, vehicles, dry leaves, grass and flammable materials. When you are done, be sure to soak your fireworks in a bucket of water before disposing of them. Always keep a hose or bucket of water close by to extinguish any small, unintended fires. If clothes catch fire, remember to cover your face and STOP, DROP and ROLL until the fire goes out.

Keep your pets safe and secure indoors: Be sure to keep your pets indoors with curtains and windows closed. Be sure your pet's collar is secure and license tag is current. If your pet is not currently licensed, get a license before fireworks go on sale July 2nd. If your pet gets loose, the license will help get your pet home and allow emergency medical care, if needed. If your pet goes missing, check with the Humane Society for Southwest Washington.

Be a good neighbor: Pick up spent fireworks and dispose of them properly once they have cooled. Soaking used fireworks overnight in a bucket of water before placing them in the trash is a good idea. They should not be left in the street for sweepers or on other public right-of-way.

Leave it to the experts: Visit a local celebration. Independence Day at Fort Vancouver will feature historic events and a fireworks display.



