

Portland Fire & Rescue

Fireworks Facts & Safety. Please Celebrate Safely.

Fireworks Fact Sheet

- During fireworks season 2017 (June 23 through July 6) there were a total of 260 fireworks-caused fires in the City of Portland.
- On July 4, 2017: **20 of 40 fires in Portland** were caused by fireworks.
- In 2017, the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office reported 318 fireworks-related fires in Oregon. Over the past five years, fireworks caused more than **\$3 million** in property damage.
- According to Multnomah County Animal Services, the 10-day period around July 4th experiences a **25%** increase in dogs and cats entering the shelter when compared with a typical 10-day period in the summer. For more information go to: www.multcopets.org or www.clackamas.us/dogs/.
- From 2013 through 2017, there were 1,355 reported fireworks-related fires in Oregon resulting in one death and 34 injuries in **Oregon**.
- **The types of fireworks that produced the most injuries** were mortars (Illegal in Oregon), fountains (legal in Oregon), and sparklers (legal in Oregon). These three types accounted for over two-thirds of the injuries. Over half of the injuries were to fingers or hands.

Fireworks Safety Tips

- Observe the law. Oregon law bans possession, use, or sale of any fireworks that **fly, explode, or travel more than one foot into the air or more than six feet on the ground, these fireworks are illegal.**
- When using legal fireworks, only set them off outdoors, in a clear area, away from homes, dry leaves, or grass and other flammable materials.
- Do not allow young children to play with fireworks under any circumstances. Older children should be permitted to use fireworks only under close adult supervision.
- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak them with water and throw them away.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for emergencies and for pouring on fireworks that fail to ignite or explode.
- Be sure other people and pets are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.
- Ashes & burned material should be placed in a metal can with a lid and stored away from combustibles or buildings.

In an Emergency Call: 9 – 1 – 1

Non-Emergency, call:

Multnomah County (503) 823-3333

Clackamas County (503) 655-8211

Washington County (503) 629-0111



www.portlandoregon.gov/fire/fireworks

Legal in Oregon vs. Illegal in Oregon

Possession of illegal fireworks could cost you up to \$1000 and you could be held liable for injuries or property damage.



Cone Fountain and Base Fountain



Wheel



Flitter Sparkler



Novelty Device



Ground Spinner



Smoke Bomb
(Not Explosive)



Party Popper



10 Inch Sparkler
(Wire Core Only)



Snake



Small or Regular Firecrackers and "Crazy Jack" or "Jumping Jack"

Sky and Missile Rockets

Bottle Rocket

Roman Candle

Aerial Shell with Mortar

LEGAL FIREWORKS

Includes: Cone Fountains, Cylindrical Fountains, Flitter Sparklers, Ground Spinners, Illuminating Torches, and other similar items.

Novelty Items: Only smoke or ash or make a small noise, such as Smoke Bombs, Party Poppers, Snakes, etc.

ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

Includes: Fireworks which explode, fly into the air, or travel more than 6 feet on the ground or 12 inches into the air. These pose a significant risk to life and property.

***Turn in illegal fireworks at any area fire station. No citation or fines are issued to people turning these in.**

Professional Fireworks Displays in the Portland Metro Area

In Oregon, firework retail sales sites must be approved and they must sell only those fireworks that are legal for use in the state

- **Waterfront Blues Festival** features more than 40 artists on four stages, plus fireworks display on July 4th, at Tom McCall Waterfront Park on the Willamette River:
<http://www.waterfrontbluesfest.com/>
- **Oaks Park**, annual 4th of July celebration, including a fireworks display:
<http://www.oakspark.com/specials.html>
- **Lake Oswego**, fireworks on the lake, annual 4th of July celebration, includes music, face painting, and other family events:
<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/parksrec/star-spangled-parade-and-celebration>
- **West Linn**, 4th of July celebration, with live music, activities, food and a fireworks display:
http://www.fhhoa.com/community-event/4th_of_july/

For more info go to: www.portlandoregon.gov/fire/fireworks

Go to a public show to see the big fireworks put on by experts