Fireworks

Fireworks Laws

1. Types of 1.4 fireworks (previously known as "Class C")

- consumer = certain types of 1.4G fireworks (bottle rockets, roman candles, and fire crackers)
- Sec. 8(a) = sparklers, ground spinners, cone fountains, wheels, cylindrical fountains
- special fireworks = 1.3G fireworks for which a permit from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives shall be obtained prior to purchase, storage, or use.

2. Conduct that, when violated, creates criminal liability.

a. Fireworks can be purchased only by persons 18 years of age or older.

b. Children may only possess or use any kind of fireworks when an adult is present.

c. Fireworks may be used:

- on the user's property.
- on the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks on that property.
- at a special discharge location.
  - * special discharge location = a place designated for the discharge of consumer fireworks under temporary policies of the State Fire Marshal.

d. consumer and Sec. 8(a) fireworks may be used only between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on days other than holidays.

- On holidays (Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, and New Year's Eve), fireworks may be used between 9:00 a.m. and midnight.

Fireworks Safety Tips

- Never let children handle, play with, or light any fireworks.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place out of children's reach.
- Always purchase your fireworks from licensed fireworks dealers.
- Use a clear, open area. Keep audience a safe distance away from the shooting site.
- Never attempt to re-light, alter, or fix any firework item.
- Have a fire extinguisher, water supply, hose, or bucket of water nearby.
- Be cautious of lighting any fireworks during strong wind conditions and light fireworks with wind blowing away from the spectators.
- Never aim, point, or throw fireworks at another person.
- Always use fireworks outdoors.

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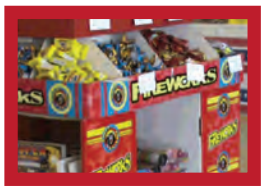
Penalties for violating Indiana's Fireworks Laws

a. A person who uses consumer fireworks at any place other than the 3 options listed in 2c or at times other than those listed in 2d, commits a class C infraction that may result in a maximum fine of $500 per infraction. More than 1 infraction in 5 years may constitute a change of a class C misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment up to 60 days and a maximum fine of $500.



b. A person who recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally uses consumer fireworks and damages someone else's property commits a class A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment up to 1 year and a maximum fine of $10,000.

c. A person who recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally uses consumer fireworks and causes serious injury to someone else, commits a class D felony punishable by imprisonment from 6 months to 3 years and a maximum fine of $10,000.

d. A person who recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally uses consumer fireworks that causes death, commits a class C felony punishable by imprisonment from 2 to 8 years and a maximum fine of $10,000.

e. A person less than 18 years of age who possesses or uses a firework when an adult is not present and responsible at the location commits a Class C infraction that may result in a fine of up to $500 per infraction.

For more information on Indiana's Fireworks Laws, visit the IDHS website at: www.in.gov/dhs.

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