

Fireworks Illegal in Delaware

The Delaware Office of the State Fire Marshal reminds all citizens and visitors of Delaware that fireworks are illegal to possess, use, or sell in the State of Delaware. This includes sparklers and sky lanterns.

Fireworks can cause serious injuries or death. Temperatures for a burning sparkler can exceed 1200 degrees Fahrenheit. Projectiles from exploded fireworks can cause eye injuries, burns, and amputations of fingers. An estimated 11,900 people were treated in the nation's hospitals in 2015 for injuries related to the use of fireworks. The highest number of injuries (8,000) occurred around the July Fourth holiday.

Fires can be started easily by exploding fireworks causing property damage especially in the dry summer months. During the evening hours it is very difficult to spot a fire starting during the fire's incipient (early) stage. Fires may erupt from discharged fireworks well after the initial explosion. Burning fireworks can land in dry grass or on the roof of house without any one detecting the danger. Fires on a roof may smolder for an extended time before breaking out in flames visible from the ground.

Please leave fireworks in the hands of professionals by attending a professional fireworks show in lieu of creating your own show. The public displays are conducted by licensed professionals and the firework sites are inspected and receive approval prior to the events.

Penalties for the use of fireworks or possession of fireworks are misdemeanors subject to a fine. Damage or injuries caused by the use of fireworks can result in felony charges.

For additional information please contact your local fire company or fire marshal's office.