



## Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service Fire Prevention Branch

# Fireworks Distribution and Sales

The City of Winnipeg has established fireworks requirements in the Fire Prevention By-law.

### ➤ Do I need a permit to sell fireworks?

Yes. The Fire Prevention By-law requires permits for the sale of fireworks to ensure that fireworks are properly and safely stored, displayed, and sold at appropriate retail locations. They must not be sold to minors and must be accompanied by consumer information concerning their safe use.

The By-law states no person may sell, offer for sale or distribute any fireworks, and no person being the owner, occupant or person in charge of any premises may permit any fireworks to be sold, offered for sale or distributed on the premises without a valid Fireworks Distribution Permit issued by the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service.

### ➤ Are there any additional requirements?

Yes. Any person who sells, offers for sale or distributes fireworks must provide at the time of the sale or distribution, printed information (e.g. brochure) in a form approved by the WFPS advising the purchaser or recipient of the fireworks that no fireworks may be ignited, fired or set off within the City of Winnipeg without a valid Fireworks Display Permit issued by the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service.

A person who sells consumer fireworks or offers them for sale shall also ensure that the manufacturer's instructions on the safe use of fireworks are provided with each sale.

A Fireworks Distribution Permit will not be issued if, in the opinion of the Chief of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, the proposed site for the sale of consumer fireworks is not suitable for that purpose.

### ➤ Are there different types of Fireworks Distribution Permits?

Yes. A Small Quantity Fireworks Distribution Permit must be renewed annually. No more than 25 kilograms (gross weight) of low hazard fireworks are allowed to be stored on site and no other classification of fireworks is allowed to be stored on the same site.

A Fireworks Distribution Permit must be renewed annually. Storage over 25 kilograms and up to 1,000 kilograms (gross weight) of low hazard fireworks is permitted. No storage of any other classification of fireworks is permitted on the same site.

A Dangerous Quantities Fireworks Storage Permit is required by any person who stores more than 1,000 kilograms (gross weight) of low hazard fireworks or any amount of high hazard fireworks or pyrotechnic special effects.

At inspection, if it is observed that quantities of low hazard fireworks are exceeding the permitted amounts, legal proceedings shall commence.

➤ **To whom am I allowed to sell fireworks?**

No person may sell, offer for sale, or distribute any fireworks, and no person being the owner, occupant, or person in charge of any premises may permit any fireworks to be sold, offered for sale, or distributed on the premises to anyone under 18 years of age

The holder of a Fireworks Distribution Permit shall ensure all employees who deal with consumer fireworks for the purpose of sale are at least 18 years of age.

Any person selling consumer fireworks shall not knowingly sell consumer fireworks to any person who is obviously under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

➤ **How am I allowed to display my fireworks for sale to the public?**

Any person who sells, offers for sale or distributes fireworks or who, being the owner occupant or person in charge of any premises, permits any fireworks to be sold, offered for sale or distributed on the premises must ensure that the fireworks being offered for sale are either packaged or stored in a manner that prevents members of the public from having direct physical contact with the fireworks other than under the supervision of the permit holder or the permit holder's agent.

Consumer fireworks being displayed for sale shall be displayed in lots that do not exceed 25 kilograms each in gross weight, in a display case, package or other suitable receptacle that is not accessible to the general public and the display case, package or other suitable receptacle in which the fireworks are displayed is not in close proximity to flammable materials and not in a location where the fireworks will be exposed to the rays of the sun or excess heat.

Any consumer fireworks that are not displayed in an approved manner shall be "mock samples" only, which contain no explosive compound and shall be labeled as such.

Portable fire extinguishers with a minimum 4A rating must be installed. One extinguisher is required for every 23 m (75 feet) of travel distance. The maximum floor area per 4A extinguisher is 1045 m<sup>2</sup> (11,250 f<sup>2</sup>).

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