



The discharge of fireworks is banned in the City of Bellevue and each of the cities that Bellevue Fire Department serves (Beaux Arts Village, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Medina, Newcastle and Yarrow Point) **except** for permitted displays. Permits for fireworks displays may only be issued to Washington State licensed Pyrotechnicians.

Individuals discharging fireworks without a permit may be charged with a misdemeanor, assessed a \$1000 fine and may also be held responsible for any damage the fireworks discharge causes.



The 4th of July in the Pacific Northwest is often in a period of drought-like conditions and fireworks are the unfortunate and unintended cause of fires every year. In 2011, there were 264 reported fires caused by fireworks in the State of Washington.

Each July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. In 2011, in Washington State, there were 212 reported injuries including 13 that resulted in amputations. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks - devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks/>

Pets are often impacted during this time period as well. Some tips for your pets:

- Keep pets indoors.
- Close the curtains or blinds and turn on the TV or radio to provide some distraction.
- A quiet place, such as a carrier or crate, may provide your pet with a sense of security and comfort.
- Use a leash or carrier, if you must be outside with your pet, to keep her from running off, which is a common response to stress and fear.
- Practicing fire safety. Keep pets away from matches, open fires, and fireworks – especially ones that are lighted on the ground. Pets may try to sniff (or eat) fireworks and pet hair can easily catch fire if too close to the fireworks.
- Take pets for a walk before dark and before the fireworks start. Some pets are too frightened to void once the fireworks begin, and this may lead to an “accident” later on.
- Make sure pet ID is current. Make sure that your pet has proper identification tags, with current information, in case she gets away. Micro-chipping is strongly recommended

Source: <http://adltexas.org/pet-resources/fireworks-safety-for-pets/>

There are many legal, permitted displays in Bellevue and throughout the region that Bellevue Fire encourages you to attend. These displays are done by professionals in coordination with the Fire Department with the safety of everyone as a primary focus. The best way to protect you and your family is to not use fireworks at home – period. The Bellevue Fire Department recommends attending public fireworks displays and leaving the lighting to the professionals.

Want more information?

- Consumer Product Safety Commission - <http://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks/>
- Washington State Fire Marshal's Office - www.wsp.wa.gov/fireworks/
- National Fire Protection Association - <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/holidays/fireworks>