

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE FIREWORKS- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Act 74 of 2022 set new rules for use of consumer-grade fireworks. Under the new law, the Fireworks Act of 1939 was repealed and replaced in its entirety. However, the questions and answers below highlight the most noteworthy changes.

## **Q: Which fireworks are Pennsylvania residents now allowed to purchase and use?**

Consumers can now purchase and use “Class C” or “consumer-grade” fireworks that include firecrackers, Roman Candles, bottle rockets, and similar fireworks that contain a maximum of 50 milligrams of explosive material. The expansion includes those fireworks that were previously only available to out-of-state residents. Consumer fireworks do not include “ground and hand-held sparkling devices”, “novelties” and “toy caps,” which are permitted at all times throughout the Commonwealth.

“Display fireworks,” which are classified as including salutes that contain more than two grains or 130 milligrams of explosive materials, and professional-grade aerial shells containing more than 60 grams of pyrotechnic compositions, are still only to be used by professionals with a permit from the municipality where the display will take place.

## **Q: Who can purchase fireworks?**

Anyone 18 years of age or older can purchase them.

## **Q: What are the restrictions on where they can be used?**

- They cannot be ignited or discharged on a public or private property without express permission of the property owner.
- They cannot be discharged from or within a motor vehicle or building.
- They cannot be discharged toward another person, vehicle or building.
- They cannot be discharged within **150 feet** of an occupied structure, vehicle or animal housing facility.
- They cannot be discharged while the person is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance or another drug.

Municipalities may restrict use of consumer fireworks between 10 p.m. and 10 a.m. **except:** July 2, 3, 4 and Dec. 31 when they may be used until 1 a.m. **\*\*If July 4 falls on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday they may be used until 1 a.m. on the immediately preceding and following Friday and Saturday.**

## **Q: Where can the fireworks be purchased?**

They can be purchased at any licensed facility, including temporary ones. The licenses are issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Examples of temporary facilities include tents or other structures found in parking lots.



**The Kingston Township Police Department will allow CONSUMER fireworks as per the State guidelines, HOWEVER, if a noise complaint is received, a citation may be issued under the Kingston Township Noise Ordinance Part 6: <https://ecode360.com/14422355>**

**Please be considerate of your neighbors, especially combat veterans and those with animals or pets.**



United States  
Consumer Product Safety Commission

# Fireworks Injuries & Deaths

2023 REPORT

#CelebrateSafely

## Safety Tips

- ★ Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks, including sparklers.
- ★ Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.
- ★ Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- ★ Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- ★ Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- ★ Never use fireworks while impaired by alcohol or drugs.
- ★ More Fireworks Safety Tips: [cpsc.gov/fireworks](https://www.cpsc.gov/fireworks)

## Injuries & Deaths



**9,700**

people were  
**treated in ERs**  
for fireworks injuries in 2023

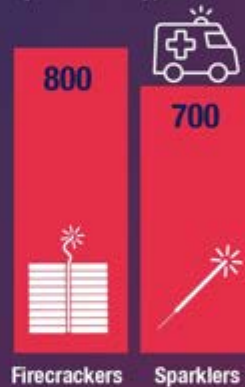
**8 Deaths**  
from Fireworks in 2023



## How & When Injuries Occurred

### 2023 Injuries

by Firework Type



**66%**

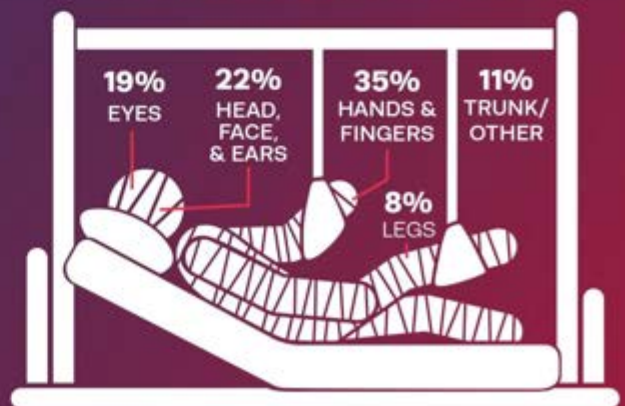
of injuries occurred  
in the weeks before &  
after the July 4th holiday



## Most Injured Body Parts



**42%** of the injuries were  
**burns**



Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety  
Commission 2023 Fireworks Annual Report



CPSC.gov  
f i s t  
USCPSC