# Alpharetta Fire & Emergency Services Fire Marshal's Office



2565 Old Milton Pkwy Alpharetta, GA 30009 Email: FireMarshalsOffice@alpharetta.ga.us

Phone: 678-297-6272

### **Fireworks Laws and Reminders**

### When and Where Requirements

The State of Georgia permits the purchase and use of consumer fireworks. Fireworks can be used any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. - unless prohibited by local noise ordinances (see CoA Sec. 26-114).

Additionally, regardless of local legislation, the use of fireworks is legal until 11:59 p.m. statewide around certain holidays:

- Memorial Day (last Saturday and Sunday in May). The Monday of Memorial Day is not included.
- Independence Day (July 3 and 4)
- Labor Day (first Monday in September)
- New Year's Eve (December 31, extended to 1 a.m. on January 1)

State law bans the use of fireworks on roads and highways and within 100 yards of a hospital, nursing home, gas station, or other critical infrastructure. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources prohibits the use of fireworks in state parks, recreational areas, or state property.

Fireworks cannot be used within any park or other City property without a permit, which we offer only as part of a City-partnered special event. A public fireworks display requires a permit from both Fulton County Probate Court and the City of Alpharetta (i.e. an HOA holiday party).

Fireworks cannot be used within the right-of-way of any public road, street, highway, or railroad.

Fireworks may not be used while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

#### Additional

Please be respectful and courteous to your neighbors who may not enjoy fireworks, may suffer from PTSD, or may have pets that are frightened by them. Also, remember that not everyone has New Year's Day off from work and may be trying to sleep. If you plan to use fireworks, we encourage you to talk with your neighbors ahead of time and try to accommodate their needs.

Please remember that Georgia law does allow the use of consumer fireworks to those over the age of 18 within the adopted rules and regulations. If a neighbor who plans to use fireworks comes to talk with you ahead of time, be respectful of their rights under the law and keep in mind that they are talking with you out of courtesy.

To report possible unlawful use of fireworks, please call the non-emergency line for our Department of Public Safety at 678-297-6300, select Option 1, and provide as much detail as possible with respect to your location and where you believe the fireworks are being used.

Above all, please be safe and treat one another as you would want to be treated.

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## **Safety Tip When Handling Fireworks**

- ✓ Read cautionary labels, directions and performance descriptions before igniting fireworks.
- ✓ Assign a responsible adult to supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- ✓ Do not light fireworks while consuming alcohol.
- ✓ Wear safety glasses when igniting fireworks.
- ✓ Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- ✓ Light fireworks outside on a flat, stable, fire-proof surface; away from buildings, vehicles and flammable materials.
- ✓ Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak duds in a bucket of water.
- ✓ Keep a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- ✓ Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them into metal or glass containers.
- ✓ Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- ✓ Soak spent fireworks in water and dispose of them in a metal trash can.
- ✓ Don't wear bulky, loose fitting clothing that could easily catch fire.
- ✓ Light fireworks using a long-tipped lighter or sawdust-covered bamboo sticks called punks, which are designed to keep your hands several inches away from the fuse.