

## General Fireworks Information

Any fireworks that leave the ground or explode are illegal in Colorado. If fire restrictions are in place or if a Red Flag Day is in effect, no fireworks of any kind are allowed. If you are within a municipality, please check with them directly to see what, if any, fireworks are allowed.

*Colorado Revised Statute 24-33.5-2001*

(11) "Permissible fireworks" means the following small fireworks devices designed to produce audible or visual effects by combustion, complying with the requirements of the United States consumer product safety commission as set forth in 16 CFR 1500.1 to 1500.272 and 1507.1 to 1507.12, and classified as consumer fireworks UN0336 and UN0337 pursuant to 49 CFR 172.101:

- (I) Cylindrical fountains, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed seventy-five grams each for a single tube or, when more than one tube is mounted on a common base, a total pyrotechnic composition of no more than two hundred grams;
  - (II) Cone fountains, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed fifty grams each for a single cone or, when more than one cone is mounted on a common base, a total pyrotechnic composition of no more than two hundred grams;
  - (III) Wheels, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed sixty grams for each driver unit or two hundred grams for each complete wheel;
  - (IV) Ground spinner, a small device containing not more than twenty grams of pyrotechnic composition venting out of an orifice usually in the side of the tube, similar in operation to a wheel, but intended to be placed flat on the ground;
  - (V) Illuminating torches and colored fire in any form, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed two hundred grams each;
  - (VI) Dipped sticks and sparklers, the total pyrotechnic composition of which does not exceed one hundred grams, of which the composition of any chlorate or perchlorate shall not exceed five grams;
  - (VII) Any of the following that do not contain more than fifty milligrams of explosive composition:
    - (A) Explosive auto alarms;
    - (B) Toy propellant devices;
    - (C) Cigarette loads;
    - (D) Strike-on-box matches; or
    - (E) Other trick noise makers;
  - (VIII) Snake or glow worm pressed pellets of not more than two grams of pyrotechnic composition and packaged in retail packages of not more than twenty-five units;
  - (IX) Fireworks that are used exclusively for testing or research by a licensed explosives laboratory;
  - (X) Multiple tube devices with:
    - (A) Each tube individually attached to a wood or plastic base;
    - (B) The tubes separated from each other on the base by a distance of at least one-half of one inch;
    - (C) The effect limited to a shower of sparks to a height of no more than fifteen feet above the ground;
    - (D) Only one external fuse that causes all of the tubes to function in sequence; and
    - (E) A total pyrotechnic composition of no more than five hundred grams.
- (b) "Permissible fireworks" do not include aerial devices or audible ground devices, including, but not limited to, firecrackers.

*Colorado Revised Statute 24-33.5-2002*

(1) Except as provided for in subsection (6) of this section, it shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly furnish to any person who is under sixteen years of age, by gift, sale, or any other means, any fireworks, including those defined as permissible fireworks in section 24-33.5-2001 (11).

(2) Except as provided for in subsection (6) of this section, it shall be unlawful for any person who is under sixteen years of age to purchase any fireworks, including those defined as permissible fireworks in section 24-33.5-2001 (11).

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any statutory or home-rule municipality from enacting any ordinance that prohibits a person under sixteen years of age from purchasing any fireworks, including those defined as permissible fireworks in section 24-33.5-2001 (11).

(4) IT IS ILLEGAL FOR ANY PERSON UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE TO PURCHASE ANY FIREWORKS. VIOLATORS MAY BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF UP TO \$750.00, BY IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO SIX MONTHS, OR BY BOTH SUCH FINE AND IMPRISONMENT.

(5) Except as provided in this section and in section 24-33.5-2003, it shall be unlawful for any person to possess or discharge any fireworks, other than permissible fireworks, anywhere in this state.

#### **Fireworks Safety Tips**

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks that come in brown paper packaging, as this can often be a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and could pose a danger to consumers.
- Adults should always supervise fireworks activities. Parents often don't realize that there are many injuries from sparklers to children under five. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never have any portion of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Move back to a safe distance immediately after lighting.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light one item at a time then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks fully complete their functioning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding to prevent a trash fire.