Ceremonial Fireworks

Updated October 2014

In general, fireworks are not allowed in the city of Seattle. However, a special, no-fee permit from the Seattle Fire Department makes it possible to use certain types of fireworks for ceremonial purposes. This special, no-fee permit strictly limits the types of fireworks that can be used as well as how, when, and where they are used. This permit has the permit code 107-SE.

Types of Fireworks that can be used with the 107-SE Permit

Approved Fireworks with a 107-SE Permit

Approved ground and hand-held consumer fireworks include sparklers, cylindrical fountains, cone fountains, illuminating torches, firecrackers, salutes, chasers, and ground spinners. Firecrackers and salutes produce noise and a flash of light. Chasers travel along the ground producing a whistling effect or other noise.

Prohibited Fireworks

Aerial fireworks such as helicopters and aerial spinner, roman candles, mine shells, aerial shells and mortar are not allowed under the special permit.

Permit Application Process

Application for fireworks permits must be made in writing to the Seattle Fire Marshal's Office at least 30 days in advance of the display. Permit applicants must be at least 18 years old or older. As part of the application process, you will be required to provide the following information:

1. The name and mailing address of the organization or person desiring to purchase and discharge the fireworks.
2. The date and time of the proposed discharge.
3. The location of the proposed discharge.
4. The quantity and type of fireworks desired to be purchased and discharged.
5. The reason or purpose of the discharge.
6. The signature of the applicant, following this statement: "The applicant understands and agrees to comply with all provisions of the application and requirements of the approving authority, will discharge the fireworks only in a manner that will not endanger persons or property or constitute a nuisance, and assumes full responsibility for all consequences of the discharge, intended, or not.

Permit application materials for all permits, including the 107-SE permit, are available on our website: http://www.seattle.gov/fire/fmo/permits/permits.htm

Restrictions on Use of Fireworks with the 107-SE Permit

Even with a permit, please note the following restrictions on use of fireworks:

1. The permit holder is authorized to purchase only the firework types of quantities listed to be discharged under the permit.
2. Storage of fireworks is allowed for only three days prior to the date of discharge.
3. The fireworks can only be discharged at the time, date, and location specified in the permit.
4. Unused fireworks must be returned to a Washington State Licensed Fireworks Wholesaler or to the nearest Seattle Police Department Precinct no later than three days after the date on the permit.
5. The permit holder must comply with all conditions of the permit, retain the permit and have it available for inspection by any public official at the actual discharge of the fireworks.

Purchasing Fire Works

Once you have received a Seattle Fire Department 107-SE permit, you may submit a copy of the permit to any licensed wholesaler as proof of authorization to purchase the fireworks. Fireworks may only be purchased from a Washington State Licensed Fireworks Wholesaler. A list of licensed wholesalers is available at: www.wsp.wa.gov/fire/docs/fwlicensing/licwhole.pdf. The purchase or receipt of mail order fireworks is prohibited unless the purchaser has first obtained an importers license.

Further Information

If you need further information, please contact the Seattle Fire Marshal's Office at (206) 386-1450.

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