

City of Coquitlam Fire/Rescue Department 1300 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam, BC 604-927-6400

## Park Events Fire Safety Guidelines Fireworks Permits

Event organizers are responsible for the following submission, regulations and safety requirements for fireworks events in City parks. Fireworks permits will generally not be issued during periods of high or extreme fire danger.

- 1. Our department shall be notified of this type of event with at least 15 business days advance notice.
- 2. Any person desiring to fire, set off, or ignite any low or high hazard fireworks, or conduct a fireworks display which includes low or high hazard fireworks shall make an application for a Fireworks Permit, and must include the following information:
  - a. The name, address and proof of age and identity of the person to whom the permit is to be issued;
  - b. If applicable, the name and address of an executive officer or other person responsible for the person receiving the permit;
  - c. The place, date, time and duration of the display;
  - d. The name and address of the owner of the property upon which the display is to be held and;
  - e. The name and address of each person under whose supervision the display will be held.
- 3. If high hazard fireworks are involved, the permit application must also state the following:
  - a. The name and address of the Supervisor approved by the Chief Inspector of Explosives who will supervise the fireworks display;
  - b. The location and manner in which the fireworks will be stored;
  - c. The manner in which unused fireworks, if any, are to be disposed of and;
  - d. The method of restraint that will be used to prevent unauthorized persons from coming into close proximity to the location where the fireworks are to be set off.
- 4. In the case of a high hazard fireworks display, the supervisor must provide a current fireworks identification card that has been issued by the Chief Inspector of Explosives.
- 5. For low hazard fireworks, Coquitlam Fire/Rescue is adhering to the federal explosives guidelines for clearance requirements (to buildings, trees, etc.) when approving fireworks permit, which are  $30m \times 30m (100' \times 100')$  for aerial displays and  $20m \times 20m (66' \times 66')$  for ground effects.
- 6. A site plan depicting the layout and set up of the high hazard fireworks display shall be provided with the fireworks permit application, and must include the following:

- a. The plan scale and clearly indicated north arrow;
- b. Locations of existing structures, public and private access roads, and spectator viewing area;
- c. Location(s) of pyrotechnic discharge area, and the distance to structures, access roads, viewing area, and adjacent properties;
- d. Displays are not permitted within 100m of a church, school, residential care facility, or a place where explosives are sold or stored.
- e. Specific information pertaining to the property, i.e.; sloping lands, streams, wetlands, wooded areas, etc., and;
- f. Indicate use of adjacent properties, i.e.; agricultural, woodlands, commercial, residential, etc.
- 7. Obtain written approval from the GM of the Parks Recreation and Culture permitting the event.
- 8. Permit fees: Low Hazard Fireworks = \$51.35; High Hazard Fireworks = \$114.00
- 9. If it is determined that staffed fire department apparatus may be required at the event for safety reasons, additional fees may be required at the time of permit issuance in the amount of \$743/hour for a standby engine vehicle and crew. Firefighters are required to stand-by 30 minutes prior to the event, during the event, and 30 minutes after the event has ended, plus any additional required time (for a minimum of three hours).

## **Permit Conditions**

- 1. The display of low and high hazard fireworks must be carried out under the direct conduct and supervision of at least one responsible person, who will be designated in the permit, and must be at least nineteen years of age.
- 2. The display of high hazard fireworks must be carried out under the direct conduct and supervision of a person approved by the Chief Inspector of Explosives.
- 3. Whether high or low hazard fireworks are being used, a display can only occur if:
  - a. All proper precautions are being observed in order to keep spectators at a safe distance from the location where the fireworks are being set off as per federal explosive guidelines;
  - b. Proper fire extinguishing equipment is available at the firing site.
  - c. Permit requirements are being followed; and
  - d. A minimum 4 hour fire watch is maintained after the last fireworks are used.
- 4. All unused fireworks and debris must be removed and disposed of in accordance with the Explosives Act.
- 5. An inspection shall be arranged with our department prior to the commencement of the event.

It is the responsibility of event organizer to comply with all requirements of this guide, the BC Fire Code, the Fire Services Act and regulations, the City of Coquitlam Fire Prevention Bylaw 3712, 2005 and all other applicable federal, provincial and municipal statutes, regulations and bylaws. Fire/Rescue may at any time inspect the premises for compliance. Failure to maintain compliance may result in the commencement of enforcement action.