



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

# Fireworks Permit Guidelines

In the City of Coquitlam, fireworks can't be sold or discharged. Fireworks that have been designated as allowable for use may be used only with a permit. Low hazard fireworks are for consumers and designed for recreational use, and high hazard fireworks are for professionals and are used in large (usually public) displays. Fireworks permit requirements, conditions and fees are as follows:

## Permit Requirements

- a) 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 must make an application to the Fire Chief for a Fireworks Permit, and must include the following information:
  - The name, address and proof of age and identity of the person to whom the permit is to be issued;
  - If applicable, the name and address of an executive officer or other person responsible for the person receiving the permit;
  - The place, date, time and duration of the display;
  - The name and address of the owner of the property upon which the display is to be held and;
  - The name and address of each person under whose supervision the display will be held.
- b) If high hazard fireworks are involved, the permit application must also state the following:
  - The name and address of the Supervisor approved by the Chief Inspector of Explosives who will supervise the fireworks display;
  - The location and manner in which the fireworks will be stored;
  - The manner in which unused fireworks, if any, are to be disposed of and;
  - 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.
- c) No person will utilize the property of any other person for a fireworks display without the written permission of the owner.
- d) 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 (Canada).



- e) A site plan depicting the layout and set up of the high hazard fireworks display must be provided with the fireworks permit application, and must include the following:
- The plan scale and clearly indicated north arrow;
  - Locations of existing structures, public and private access roads, and spectator viewing area;
  - Location(s) of pyrotechnic discharge area, and the distance to structures, access roads, viewing area, and adjacent properties;
  - Specific information pertaining to the property, i.e.; sloping lands, streams, wetlands, wooded areas, etc., and;
  - Indicate use of adjacent properties, i.e.; agricultural, woodlands, commercial, residential, etc.
- f) For low hazard fireworks, Coquitlam Fire/Rescue is adhering to the federal explosives guidelines for clearance requirements when approving fireworks permit, which are 30m x 30m for aerial displays and 20m x 20m for ground effects. These clearance requirements essentially eliminate most residential lots from receiving a permit. Office staff will check if required clearance is met.

## Conditions of the Permit

- a) The following conditions will apply to the firing or setting off of low hazard fireworks or fireworks display:
- The display of low 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.
- b) The following conditions will apply to the firing or setting off of high hazard fireworks or fireworks display:
- 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.
- c) Whether high or low hazard fireworks are being used, a display can only occur if:
- 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;
  - All proper precautions are being observed in order to protect public and private property; and
  - Proper fire extinguishing equipment is available.



- d) No display can be held without compliance with the distance restrictions as set out in The Explosives Act (Canada). Don't use fireworks within 100m of a church, school, residential care facility, or a place where explosives are sold or stored.
- e) All unused fireworks and debris must be removed and disposed of in accordance with The Explosives Act (Canada).
- f) If the display is to be held on or above municipal owned or controlled property, the person to whom the permit is issued must do the following before holding the display:
  - Provide a written letter guaranteeing the City reimbursement for any damages that may result from the fireworks display;
  - Provide an insurance policy including the amount of liability coverage acceptable to the City; and
  - Provide a written letter from an authorized staff member of the Leisure and Parks Department permitting the event.

## Permit Fees

- a) A permit fee and application form from Coquitlam Fire/Rescue is required. Complete applications must be received a minimum of 72 hours prior to the event.
  - Fees:        Low Hazard Fireworks = \$50.00;        High Hazard Fireworks = \$100.00
- b) If at the discretion of the Fire Chief, it is determined that appropriately staffed fire department apparatus may be required to be stationed at the event for safety reasons, the following additional fees may be required at the time of permit issuance:
  - The current hourly rate for each four-person fire engine or emergency vehicle, for the duration of the event. 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).

