

Town of Bridgton

Consumer Fireworks Use Ordinance



Enacted: June 11, 2013.

Amended: June 14, 2022; November 8, 2022

**TOWN OF BRIDGTON
CONSUMER FIREWORKS USE ORDINANCE**

ARTICLE I. AUTHORITY; PURPOSE

Section 1.1. Authority

This ordinance shall be known as the “Town of Bridgton Consumer Fireworks Use Ordinance” and is referred to herein as “this Ordinance.” This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to Article VIII, Part Second, of the Maine Constitution; 30-A M.R.S. § 3001 *et seq.*; and 8 M.R.S. § 223-A(2).

Section 1.2. Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to regulate the use of consumer fireworks the Town of Bridgton. This Ordinance does not regulate State-permitted fireworks shows.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to this Ordinance, unless the context clearly otherwise requires. Any reference to a state law includes amendments thereto and successor provisions.

Section 2.1. “Combustible Material” means a gas, solid, or liquid that can be ignited and burned.

Section 2.2. “Consumer Fireworks” has the same meaning as in 8 M.R.S. § 221-A(1-A) and is authorized by the State of Maine for sale to the general public.

ARTICLE III. CONSUMER USE OF FIREWORKS

Section 3.1. Age Requirement

No person under the age of 21 may sell, purchase, or use Consumer Fireworks.

Section 3.2. Day and Time of Use

A. Holiday Use. Consumer Fireworks may be used between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 12:30 A.M. the following day on the specific dates listed below:

1. July 4th
2. December 31st
3. The Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays immediately before and after July 4th

B. Weekend Use. Except as provided in Section 3.2(A)(3), Consumer Fireworks may be used between the hours of 5:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

Section 3.3. Location

- A. A person may use Consumer Fireworks only on that person's property or on the property of another person who has consented in writing to the use of Consumer Fireworks on that property. If the user is a tenant, written consent must be obtained from the landlord. The written consent shall contain the name and contact information for the property owner and, as applicable, the landlord.
- B. No person shall use, display, discharge, fire, or cause to be exploded Consumer Fireworks within 50 feet of any Combustible Material or within 50 feet of any buildings or structures, with the exception of parking lots and temporary or permanent docks connected to the shoreland.

ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES

Section 4.1. Administration and Enforcement

This Ordinance shall be administered and enforced by the Bridgton Police Department.

Section 4.2. Penalties

In addition to any applicable penalties imposed pursuant to 8 M.R.S. § 223-A, a violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance is a civil violation punishable by a fine of \$75 for the first offense, \$300 for the second offense, and \$500 for the third or subsequent offenses.

ARTICLE V. MISCELLANEOUS

Section 6.1. Exceptions

Pursuant to 8 M.R.S. § 227-B, this Ordinance does not regulate, restrict, prevent, or prohibit fireworks displays, as defined in 8 M.R.S. § 221-A, or the issuance of a fireworks display permit pursuant to 8 M.R.S. § 227-A.

Section 6.2. Filing

The Town Clerk shall provide to the State Fire Marshal a copy of this Ordinance within 60 days of its adoption or amendment.

Section 6.3. Severability

If any part of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, such part shall be deemed severable and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining parts of this Ordinance.

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