

Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services

REGULATIONS FOR THE RETAIL SALES OF FIREWORKS FROM A BUILDING

The Corporation of the City of Mississauga, Business Licensing By-Law 01-06 specifies that fireworks may only be sold from buildings to which a license has been issued. Applications to obtain a licence to sell fireworks are available from the “Business Licensing” offices at the Civic Centre, 300 City Centre Dr. 905-896-5558 or by fax.

Sales of Fireworks under By-law 01-06

No person licensed under By-law 01-06 shall:

- Sell fireworks to anyone under the age of eighteen (18) years;
- Sell firecrackers or restricted pyrotechnic devices;
- Sell or display any fireworks outside of the building or part thereof;
- Sell fireworks at any time during the year except for the ten (10) days immediately preceding the days set by statute for the observance of Victoria and Canada Day, except to the holder of a permit issued by the Fire Chief;
- Display any fireworks in any display window except where the fireworks do not contain any explosive or chemical material; and
- Store or sell any fireworks not in conformity with all other applicable legislation or requirements.

Explosives Act and Regulations – Summary of Regulatory Requirements for Consumer Fireworks

The Explosives Act and its Regulations identify the following requirements for display and storage of consumer fireworks for all fireworks vendors:

Sale

- Consumer fireworks may be sold to persons who are at least 18 years of age.
- Customers are not permitted to handle any fireworks articles that are not in approved packaging until the articles have been purchased.
- The retailer must display fireworks for sale in accordance with the following section.

Display of Consumer Fireworks

- Consumer fireworks on display must be separated into lots not exceeding 25 kg gross weight.
- The separation must be sufficient to prevent fire from spreading rapidly from one lot to the next and may consist of, for example:
 - an aisle with a minimum width of 1.1 metres, or
 - a 6-mm plywood partition that extends 15 cm above the height of the lot or to the display shelf above.
- No more than 10% of the area of a display shelf should contain holes or other openings.
- The fireworks must be kept away from flammable goods and not be exposed to the sun or direct heat.
- Fireworks on display must be in approved packaging (e.g. family or blister pack), a glass case, or other suitable receptacle (e.g. shelves that are out of reach of the public).
- Fireworks articles not in approved packaging must be inaccessible to the public.
- It is unacceptable to set up display boards that employ live fireworks, even if the fuses are removed (the alteration of fireworks is prohibited by the *Explosives Act*). The display boards should contain only inert articles, which may be obtained from your distributor or the product manufacturer.
- A “NO SMOKING” sign must be posted in the display area.
- Fireworks on display must be attended by an employee.
- If fireworks are displayed indoors or in a van or trailer, there must be two unobstructed exits to ensure that employees and the public can quickly evacuate in the event of fire.
- Any fireworks not on display must be put in storage as described in the following section.

Storage

- A building may house up to 1000 kg gross weight of consumer fireworks provided that it is detached from a dwelling and that the building, or a dedicated portion of it, is:
 - closed to public access,
 - well constructed, and
 - used exclusively for fireworks storage.
- If the building does not meet these requirements, the fireworks may be kept in a lockable secure bin within the building, but the storage limit is reduced to 100 kg gross weight.
- Storage quantities in excess of 1000 kg gross weight require a magazine license issued by ERD.
- The storage facility must display warning signs marked “FIREWORKS” and “NO SMOKING”.
- Storage in vehicles, e.g. trucks or vans, is prohibited.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In Case of Fire Involving Fireworks

Evacuate the building immediately
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FIGHT THE FIRE
Close doors behind you
Call 911 immediately from a safe location.

In Case of Fire Not Involving Fireworks

If a small fire, attempt to extinguish (if trained) by using a portable fire extinguisher
Call 911 immediately from a safe location
Evacuate building if fire spreads out of control or into the fireworks.

