

Wisconsin Department of Justice
Quick Guide To Wisconsin Fireworks Law 2007

No Permit Needed And No Age Restriction (unless by local ordinance):

Sparklers, stationary cones and fountains, toy snakes, smoke bombs, and caps, noisemakers and confetti poppers with less than ¼ of a grain of explosive mixture are legal without permits, unless restricted by local ordinances.

Valid Permit Required, Group Use Only, No Use By Minors or Individuals:

All other fireworks, including roman candles, firecrackers, bottle rockets, mortars etc.--anything that explodes or leaves the ground--is illegal except for groups with permits.

Valid Permits:

- must be issued by a mayor, village president or town chair or designated municipal official or employee. **Permits issued or sold by vendors are never valid**, even if authorized by an official or bearing a printed or stamped official signature.
- **A permit issued to an individual is not valid** (except to a farmer for crop protection). It must be issued to a group or other organization listed in the statute.
- **only allow possession or use in municipality of issuing official**
- must specify the kind of fireworks allowed, not just broad categories. The term “Class C” fireworks does not satisfy this requirement.
- must specify the quantity, in numbers, of each kind of fireworks it allows. A dollar value does not satisfy this requirement
- must give a single specific location at which the fireworks may be possessed or used. The name of the municipality alone is not enough. A separate permit is required for each location.
- must give a single date on which the fireworks may be used. A separate permit is required for each separate date.
- must state the date on or after which the fireworks may be purchased.
- A copy of the permit must be provided to law enforcement or a fire official in the municipality of the permitted use at least two days before use.
- Non-residents must have a Wisconsin permit to buy fireworks while in Wisconsin. A non-resident may order fireworks from a Wisconsin vendor while out of state, if they are shipped or delivered to the out-of-state location by commercial carrier or by the seller in a truck owned by the seller. An out-of-state buyer may not pick up their fireworks in Wisconsin.
- A legal purchaser may transport the fireworks from a place of purchase to the location specified in the permit for possession or use.
- Cannot be issued to a minor and parents and guardians may not allow a minor to use restricted fireworks.
- **A group with a permit may authorize named individuals to purchase on its behalf, subject to the limits imposed by the group’s permits.**

Penalties:

Up to \$1,000 forfeiture per violation (each firework may be a violation); up to \$10,000 and 9 months in jail for a person who violates an injunction prohibiting them from violating the law.

For more information see Wisconsin Statutes Section 167.10