



**Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division
Consumer Fireworks Enforcement Information
June, 2004**

<p>EXAMPLES OF FIREWORKS THAT ARE NOW LEGAL TO SELL, POSSESS AND USE BY THE PUBLIC ON OR AFTER APRIL 30, 2002 AS PERMITTED BY MINNESOTA STATUTE 624.20 (C):</p>	<p>EXAMPLES OF FIREWORKS THAT CONTINUE TO BE ILLEGAL TO SELL POSSESS AND USE, EXCEPT AS PERMITTED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTE 624.20</p>
<p>Wire or wood sparklers of not more than 100 grams of mixture per item</p> <p>Other sparkling items which are nonexplosive and nonaerial and contain 75 grams or less of chemical mixture per tube or a total of 200 grams or less for multiple tubes and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cylindrical fountain</u> Upon ignition, a shower of colored sparks or smoke and sometimes a whistling effect is produced. • <u>Cone Fountain</u> The effect is the same as that of a cylindrical fountain. When more than 1 cone is mounted on a common base, total pyrotechnic composition may not exceed 200 grams • <u>Illuminating Torch</u> • <u>Wheel</u> - Pyrotechnic device intended to be attached to a post or tree by means of a nail or string. Upon ignition, the wheel revolves, producing a shower of color and sparks and, sometimes, a whistling effect • <u>Ground Spinner</u> - Small device venting out an orifice usually on the side of the tube. Similar in operation to a wheel but intended to be placed flat on the ground and ignited. The rapidly spinning device produces a shower of sparks and color. • <u>Flitter Sparkler</u> - Narrow paper tube attached to a stick or wire that produces color and sparks upon ignition. The paper at one end of the tube is ignited to make the device function. • <u>Flash/Strobe</u> - Emit a bright light <p>Novelty items such as snakes and glow worms, smoke devices, or trick noisemakers which include paper streamers, party poppers, string poppers, snappers, and drop pops, each consisting of not more than twenty-five hundredths grains of explosive mixture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Any fireworks that are explosive</u> • <u>Any fireworks that are aerial</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firecrackers (any size) • Ladyfingers • Sky rockets • Bottle rockets • Missile type rockets • Helicopters, aerial spinners, planes, UFOs • Roman Candles • Mines or shells (heavy cardboard or paper tube(s) attached to a base – upon ignition stars, balls or reports are propelled into the air) • Chasers • Parachutes • 1.3G Display (special or class B) Fireworks • Aerial shells • Theatrical pyrotechnics (see Minn. Stat. 624.20 to 624.25) <p>Basically, any fireworks listed above are still not legal for public sale, possession or use, except with a permit and by a certified operator according to Minnesota Statute 624.20. (i.e. these fireworks are still not legal unless a permit has been issued by the local jurisdiction and they are used by a state certified operator)</p>



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Minnesota Statutes

624.20 Fireworks

(c) The term also does not include wire or wood sparklers of not more than 100 grams of mixture per item, other sparkling items which are nonexplosive and nonaerial and contain 75 grams or less of chemical mixture per tube or a total of 200 grams or less for multiple tubes, snakes and glow worms, smoke devices, or trick noisemakers which include paper streamers, party poppers, string poppers, snappers, and drop pops, each consisting of not more than twenty-five hundredths grains of explosive mixture. The use of items listed in this paragraph is not permitted on public property. This paragraph does not authorize the purchase of items listed in it by persons younger than 18 years of age. The age of a purchaser of items listed in this paragraph must be verified by photographic identification.

624.24 Officers may seize illegal fireworks.

The state fire marshal, or any sheriff, police officer, constable, or local fire marshal, shall seize, take, remove, or cause to be removed, at the expense of the owner, all stocks of fireworks or combustibles offered or exposed for sale, stored, or held in violation of sections 624.20 to 624.25.

624.25 Violation.

Any person violating the provisions of sections 624.20 to 624.24 may be sentenced as follows:

- (1) if the violation involves explosive fireworks in an amount of 35 pounds gross container weight or more, to imprisonment for not more than one year, or to payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both;
- (2) if the violation involves explosive fireworks in an amount of less than 35 pounds gross container weight, to imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or to payment of a fine of not more than \$700, or both; and
- (3) if the violation involves any amount of fireworks other than explosive fireworks, to imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or to payment of a fine of not more than \$700, or both.

Disposal Information:

Confiscated legal fireworks may be disposed of by safely discharging them as their design intended. Confiscated legal fireworks might be those used on public property in violation of MS 624.20 as cited above. Additionally –

- The LaCrosse Skyrockers, a 501(C3) corporation, may be by interested in taking possession of confiscated legal and illegal consumer fireworks for use in training and testing. Contact Charlie Weeth at 608-784-3212, or by email at chzweeth@pyro-pages.com.
- The American Pyrotechnics Association (APA) may be interested in taking possession of substantial quantities of legal and illegal consumer fireworks for use in testing. Contact the APA at 301-907-8181.

Contact:

Bob Dahm, Bureau Chief, MN State Fire Marshal Division, 651-215-0505

Additional information is available on the State Fire Marshal Division Web site:

www.fire.state.mn.us/fireworksinfo.html