



# ASOTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF M. RENZELMAN  
CITY OF ASOTIN



## Press Release

### Fireworks/Fourth of July Celebrations

### June 24, 2026

### Asotin Police Department

Celebrating the Fourth of July with fireworks is as American as Apple Pie, but knowledge of the law is paramount to a safe display.

The dates and hours of firework use per Asotin City Ordinance is:

*Approved consumer fireworks, as defined by RCW [70.77.136](#), may be discharged within the City of Asotin on July 3<sup>rd</sup> between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., and on July 4<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight. (City of Asotin Municipal Code 8.22.030).*

The only legal fireworks are the “Safe and Sane” fireworks. It is important to know what a legal firework is because there are locations where illegal fireworks can be sold, which does not make it legal to set off. Firecrackers, Bottle Rockets, Sky Rockets, and Missiles are examples of those that can be purchased locally but are illegal to discharge in the city limits. Most of the following are legal, but we suggest you still check each one purchased as there are variations of each: Cylindrical and Cone Fountains, Aerial Spinners, Helicopters, Smoke Devices, Roman Candles, Parachutes, Wheels, Mine/Shells/Cakes, Ground Spinners, Dipped Stick, Sparklers, and Novelties. (Washington State Fire Marshall’s Office).

Safety is of the most importance as any legal firework can become dangerous to person and property. The safest is to attend the public display. If you do purchase your own, follow these simple tips:

- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult SHOULD supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Have a charged water hose that can reach the furthest location from your display.

- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.

- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area, away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never re-light a “dud” firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water to soak your spent fireworks into.
- Use a level hard surface away from flammable material such as trees and weeds.
- Never carry fireworks in your POCKET or shoot them into METAL or GLASS containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- FAA regulations PROHIBIT the possession and transportation of fireworks in your checked baggage or carry-on luggage.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

**The Asotin Police Department wishes everyone a Happy and Safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July!!!**

Chief Monte Renzelman 300  
Asotin Police Department  
Asotin WA





**CITY OF ASOTIN**  
**Fourth of July**  
**Fire Work Celebration Regulations**

Approved consumer fireworks, as defined by RCW 70.77.136, may be discharged during the following times and dates:

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>** between the hours of 9:00 am to 11:00 pm

**July 4<sup>th</sup>** between the hours of 9:00 am to 12:00 midnight

**The Asotin Police Department wishes everyone a Happy and Safe**

**4<sup>th</sup> of July!!!**

(Asotin Municipal Code 8.22.030)

# Can you tell the difference between Illegal Fireworks and Illegal Explosive Devices?

## It could save a life!

### Which fireworks are illegal in our state?

These are listed as Consumer Fireworks but are illegal to sell, possess, and/or discharge within the State of Washington. They are legal to sell, possess, and/or discharge on tribal lands.

#### Firecrackers

Generally 1/4" x 1 1/2" or less that come in packs to large bricks. A firecracker makes a single "pop" sound. Many firecrackers strung together will make repetitive "popping" sounds.



#### Bottle Rockets

A firecracker type (tube) attached to a 12" long wooden stick. The stick is placed in a bottle and once lit, it rises into the air, travelling laterally before exploding.

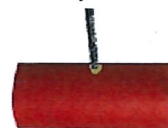
#### Sky Rockets and Missiles

Similar to the Bottle Rocket, a Sky Rocket is attached to a stick or has fins and may have a plastic cap. A missile will have fins rather than a stick. Once lit, it ascends rapidly, high into the air where it explodes.



Illegal explosive devices are often wrongly referred to as fireworks because they look like large firecrackers, but they can have as much explosive power as a 1/4 stick of dynamite.

#### Mass-produced Homemade Devices Example: M-80's, M-100's, etc.



#### Homemade Explosives Example: Pipe Bomb & Tennis Ball Bomb



#### Altering consumer fireworks making an explosive device Example: Sparkler Bomb



## Do not handle explosive devices!!

**If possible, have the local bomb squad  
evaluate and pick up the device.**

Possession, manufacturing, or using illegal explosive devices is a **criminal offense** in Washington.

**Call the State Fire Marshal's Office at  
(360) 596-3946 for additional information.**



FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU – PREVENTION DIVISION  
(360) 596-3946 FAX: (360) 596-3934  
E-Mail: [Fireworks@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:Fireworks@wsp.wa.gov)





**WASHINGTON STATE  
LEGAL CONSUMER FIREWORKS  
FOR SALE IN TENTS AND STANDS PER RCW 70.77.136**

**Cylindrical Fountain**

Upon ignition, a shower of colored sparks, and sometimes a whistling effect, is produced.



**Helicopters, Aerial Spinners**

A propeller or blade is attached, which, upon ignition, lifts the rapidly spinning device into the air. A visible or audible effect is produced at the height of flight.



**Cone Fountain**

Upon ignition, a shower of colored sparks, and sometimes a whistling effect, is produced.



**Smoke Devices**

Tube or sphere containing pyrotechnic composition that, upon ignition, produces a white or colored smoke as a primary effect.



**Roman Candles**

Heavy paper or cardboard tube containing pyrotechnic composition. Upon ignition, up to ten "stars" are individually expelled at several-second intervals.



**Parachutes**

Upon ignition, one or more parachutes are propelled into the air with stars, smoke, and other effects being discharged as the parachute floats downward.



**Wheels**

Pyrotechnic device attached to a post or tree by means of a nail or string. A wheel may contain up to six "driver" units; upon ignition, the wheel revolves, producing a shower of color and sparks and, sometimes, a whistling effect.



**Mine/Shells/Cakes**

Mine – An aerial device that shoots stars into the sky in an upward spray pattern.  
Shell – A shell is an aerial item that is fired into the sky.  
Cake – Dense-packed collection of mine/shell tubes that are fused together.



**Ground Spinners**

A small device similar to a wheel in design and effect. When placed on the ground and ignited, a shower of sparks and color is produced by the rapidly spinning device.



**Reloadable Mortars**

A shell consisting of a container, a lift charge, a time fuse, a burst charge, and stars/effects. The lift charge propels the shell out of the tube igniting the burst charge at the right altitude, igniting the effects.



**Dipped Stick, Sparkler**

Stick or wire coated with pyrotechnic composition that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition. Total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 100 grams per item.



**Novelties**

"Trick and Novelty Devices" means any small firework device not classified as a Consumer of Display Firework. Items contain a small amount of pyrotechnic composition that is friction sensitive.



\*\* Pictures shown are for illustrative purposes only and are not an endorsement of any brand or style of consumer firework.

3000-420-039 (R 5/12)



**FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU – PREVENTION DIVISION  
(360) 596-3946 FAX: (360) 596-3934  
E-Mail: Fireworks@wsp.wa.gov**





## FIREWORK AND EXPLOSIVE DEVICES THAT ARE ILLEGAL IN WASHINGTON STATE

**Federally Legal Consumer Fireworks:** These items are legal to purchase, possess, and discharge only at an Indian Reservation. Possession and/or use off the reservation is illegal.

### Firecrackers

Generally 1/4" x 1 1/2" or less that come in packs to large bricks. A firecracker makes a single "pop" sound. Many firecrackers strung together will make repetitive "popping" sounds.



### Sky Rockets and Missiles

Similar to the Bottle Rocket, a Sky Rocket is attached to a stick or has fins and may have a plastic cap. A missile will have fins rather than a stick. Once lit, it ascends rapidly, high into the air where it explodes.



### Bottle Rockets

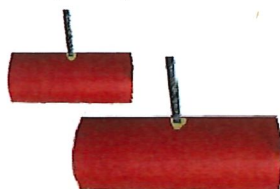
A firecracker type (tube) attached to a 12" long wooden stick. The stick is placed in a bottle and once lit, it rises into the air, travelling laterally before exploding.



**Illegal Explosive Devices:** The possession, manufacturing, or using of illegal Explosive Devices is a criminal offense.

### M-80's, M-100's, etc.

Illegal since the 70's, an M-80 can contain flash powder, black powder, or a composition of materials that are sensitive to shock and can injure or kill people. Can do serious permanent damage to fingers, hands, and eyes.



### Improvised Explosive Device (IED)

A pipe bomb is an improvised explosive device, consisting of a tightly sealed section of pipe that is filled with an explosive material. The pipe provides containment, meaning that a low explosive can be used to produce a relatively large explosion.

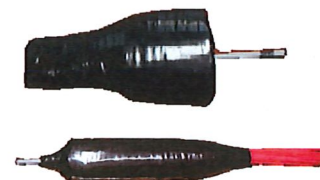


A tennis ball bomb is an improvised explosive device consisting of a tennis ball filled with combustibles or pyrotechnic material with a fuse producing a loud explosion.



### Altered Firework

Sparklers are bound together in electrical or duct tape to contain the ignition of the sparklers, providing for a loud "whoomp" sound with a flash of light.



## ASOIN FIREWORK ORDINANCE

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### 8.22.030 Discharge of consumer fireworks – Days and hours permitted.

The sale, purchase and discharge of consumer fireworks shall not be permitted at any time except during the following times and dates:

A. Consumer fireworks may be purchased and sold within the city of Asotin only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on July 2nd and 3rd of any year; between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight on July 4th of any year; between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on July 5th of any year; and only between the hours of 12:00 noon and 11:00 p.m. on December 29th through December 31st of any year.

B. Approved consumer fireworks, as defined by RCW [70.77.136](#), may be discharged within the city of Asotin only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. July 3rd of any year, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight on July 4th of any year, and between the hours of 6:00 p.m. on December 31st and 1:00 a.m. on January 1st of the subsequent year.

C. The mayor, after consulting with the fire chief, fire marshal and others officials as may be deemed appropriate, may prohibit the discharge of all fireworks during periods of extreme fire danger. For the purposes of this chapter, the term “extreme fire danger” shall mean a period of hot, dry weather accompanied by low fuel moistures. It is during this period that wild land fires can be expected, and fire growth will be accelerated. (Ord. 21-865 § 1, 2021; Ord. 16-800 § 1, 2016)

### 8.22.040 Penalty.

Any person convicted of a violation of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or by imprisonment in jail for a period not to exceed 90 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

A. For the first violation, the fine shall not be less than \$250.00 and the first \$100.00 of the fine may not be suspended or deferred plus restitution for any damages to persons or property.

B. For the second violation, the fine shall not be less than \$500.00 and the first \$200.00 may not be suspended or deferred, plus restitution for any damages to persons or property.

C. For the third violation, the fine shall not be less than \$1,000 and the first \$500.00 may not be suspended or deferred plus restitution for any damages to persons or property. (Ord. 16-800 § 1, 2016)

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