

Copley Police Department

Regulations on the Discharge of Fireworks

August 2024

The purchase, possession, and discharge of fireworks in Copley Township is regulated by State Law. The following is a partial list of the restrictions imposed on persons that discharge fireworks in Copley Township. Violations of these restrictions could result in arrest and prosecution.

Copley residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the restrictions with regard to the discharge of fireworks, prior to purchasing and or discharging these fireworks. Police officers can confiscate fireworks, which will be destroyed in a controlled manner for the safety of the public and police officers. Do not expect to have confiscated fireworks returned to you.

Persons are permitted to discharge fireworks as follows:

1. You may only purchase, possess, and discharge consumer grade fireworks, commonly referred to as 1.4G.
2. You should only purchase fireworks from licensed dealers or retail establishments.
3. You cannot purchase fireworks from others.
4. The discharge of fireworks is only permitted on specific dates and during specific times. You should obtain that information at the point of purchase.
5. Only persons 18 years of age or older are permitted to purchase, possess, and/or discharge fireworks.
6. You are not permitted to discharge fireworks while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or marijuana.
7. There are several requirements that must be followed to maintain separation from the point of discharge to homes, buildings, property, and spectators:
 - a. Aerial fireworks require a fall-out / separation area of at least 150 feet from spectators.
 - b. Ground fireworks require a separation area of at least 50 feet from spectators.
 - c. You must maintain a distance of at least 150 feet from the point of discharge of aerial fireworks to any structures, whether they belong to you, neighbors, or others.



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- d. You must maintain a distance of at least 450 feet from the point of discharge of aerial fireworks to any multi-family structures, such as, hotels, nursing homes, apartment complexes, or condominiums.
- e. The area selected as a discharge site for aerial fireworks must be located so that the post ignition trajectory of the shells shall not come within 25 feet of any overhead object, structure, or vehicle.
- f. The fallout area of aerial shells must be an open area. Spectators, vehicles, or combustible material must not be located within the fallout area while fireworks are being discharged.
- g. When determining separation distances, any conflict or ambiguity shall be resolved in a manner that provides the greatest degree of public safety and property protection. The final determination of such shall be made by police and/or fire service personnel from Copley Township.
- 8. The discharge of fireworks in the public roadways or on public property is strictly prohibited.
- 9. You cannot discharge fireworks on the property of another person without explicit written permission.
- 10. You cannot discharge fireworks toward any other person or object including bystanders, spectators, emergency services personnel, vehicles, aircraft, watercraft, or any structure.
- 11. The discharge of fireworks includes the use, explosion, detonation, ignition, or discharge of these fireworks in any manner.
- 12. You cannot store fireworks within the discharge area in such a manner that accidental ignition would have a high likelihood of occurring.



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13. NOISE RESTRICTIONS:

- a. Copley Township is covered by the Summit County Ohio Noise Nuisance Ordinance.
- b. The Ohio law that permits the legal discharge of consumer grade fireworks does not limit the enforcement of any ordinance, resolution, or statute that regulates noise, disturbance of the peace, or disorderly conduct.
- c. Consequently, if persons persist in the discharge of fireworks over a period of time that creates a nuisance, police and/or fire officials will force the discontinuation of the fireworks discharge.
- d. The Summit County Noise Nuisance Ordinance prohibits:
 - i. Noise which annoys or offends another or others, obstructs the use of property, endangers the comfort of safety or others, essentially interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property, etc.
 - ii. Frequent and habitual use of items that create noise or any other audible nuisance, which creates unreasonably loud and disturbing noise of such a character, intensity, and duration so as to disturb the peace, quiet, and comfort of any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing in the County.
- e. Copley Police officers will be forced to make a determination if the noise is unreasonably loud and disturbing for the time of day and location and if the intensity and duration are disturbing the peace.

