

## GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT FIREWORKS AWARENESS

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Florida Statutes Chapter 791

Collier County Land Development Code Section 5.04.05

Collier County Code of Laws and Ordinances Chapters 54, 55, and 58

#### Q: Are fireworks legal in Florida?

A: Florida Statute Chapter 791 prohibits the sale and use of fireworks, with the following exceptions:

- Sparklers, novelties, and trick noisemakers not defined as fireworks may be sold or used at any time.
- Fireworks may be sold at wholesale to other manufacturers or distributors.
- Fireworks may be sold and used for the following reasons:
  - Supervised public fireworks displays that are approved by the Board of County Commissioners for fair associations, amusement parks, and other organizations or groups of individuals.
  - Signal, illumination, or ceremonial purposes for railroads, quarries, theaters, sporting events, or military or air force organizations.
  - Frightening birds from agricultural works and fish hatcheries.

## Q: Who is responsible for enforcing the State's prohibition on the use of Fireworks?

- A: Florida Statutes <u>Chapter 791</u> identifies that enforcement of the State's fireworks laws remains with "local law enforcement departments and officials charged with the enforcement of the laws of the state."
- A: The seizure of any fireworks for sale, stored, or held in violation of state statutes is the responsibility of each sheriff or any other police officer.
- Q: Why do I see tents selling sparklers before Independence Day and New Year's Eve?



- A: Florida Statutes Chapter 791 allows "seasonal retailers" to sell sparklers two times per year.
- A: Collier County applies local zoning regulations in <u>Land Development Code section 5.04.05</u> related to these temporary seasonal sales through a requirement for temporary use permits.



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Each temporary seasonal sale permit holder within the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District (GNFD) must comply with state statutes and must obtain a permit from GNFD.

### Q: Are there any other limitations on the sale or use of fireworks?

- A: The sale and/or use of fireworks or incendiary devices may be prohibited during drought conditions after the following actions:
  - The Collier County Board of County Commissioners may declare that a local emergency exists
    during extreme drought conditions. To limit fire hazards, this emergency declaration may
    include a ban on outdoor ignition sources. These "burn bans" specify whether the sale and/or
    use of fireworks or incendiary devices is included in the prohibition (Collier County Code of Laws
    and Ordinances <a href="Chapter 58-1">Chapter 58-1</a>).
  - If the Governor of the State of Florida declares a state of emergency due to extended drought
    and potential for wildfires that includes all or parts of Collier County, a prohibition against the
    sale or use of fireworks becomes effective for 30 days commencing with the declaration of a
    state of emergency (Collier County Code of Laws and Ordinances <a href="Chapter 58-27 D.1.i">Chapter 58-27 D.1.i</a>).
- A: Collier County Code of Laws and Ordinances <u>Chapter 54-335 (s)</u> prohibits possessing or discharging fireworks within or into preserve boundaries.

### **REFERENCES**

- Florida Statutes Chapter 791
- Collier County Code of Laws and Ordinances:
  - o <u>Section 54-335 (s)</u>
  - o Section 55-4
  - o Section 58-1
  - o <u>Section 58-27 D.1.i</u>
- Collier County Land Development Code:
  - o <u>Section 5.04.05</u>
- Approved sparklers list:
  - http://www.myfloridacfo.com/division/sfm/BFP/ApprovedSparklerLists.htm
- Images from: 2004 Fireworks and Sparkler Enforcement Guide