



# **CITY OF EMPORIA RETAIL FIREWORKS STAND INFORMATION**

**Prepared By:  
Fire Marshal Reason Bradford  
April 2017**

## *Introduction*

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### **CITY OF EMPORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR RETAIL FIREWORKS STANDS**

In an effort to make this year's retail fireworks stand sales successful, we have put together this information booklet which we are confident will answer many of your preliminary questions. We encourage all fireworks vendors to contact the Emporia Fire Department (620) 343-4230 and ask to speak with an inspector if you have any questions prior to your fireworks stand inspection. Our overall goal is to assure that the process flows as smoothly as possible. Everyone's safety is paramount to us. Enclosed you will also find a very short survey. We ask that you take a few minutes to fill it out and return it to the Emporia Fire Department after the sales event.

While there are other city departments that regulate retail fireworks stands, the Fire Department is the primary enforcement agency or authority having jurisdiction. The Clerk's Office addresses the receipt of the retail stand application and issuance of the City of Emporia Fireworks License; the Zoning Department addresses the location where retail stands can conduct business; and the Fire Department addresses all aspects of the retail stand in addition to specific requirements.

We will now address the specific requirements for the stand, itself. All retail fireworks stands must be operated out of a tent which may be rented from a commercial rental company or personally owned.

When it comes to requirements for a tent, the Fire Department enforces the requirements as stated in the 2006 International Fire Code, Chapter 24 Tents, Canopies and Other Membrane Structures. All tents used for a retail fireworks stand are required to comply with the code. Failure to comply will result in the issuance of the City of Emporia Fireworks Permit being delayed. Without a City of Emporia Fireworks Permit, fireworks **cannot be sold** to the public. Each tent requirement will be broken down and explained.

Let's **BEGIN** with the outside of the tent first...

## ***Requirements for the Outside of a Retail Fireworks Stand Tent***

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- **Tent must be at minimum of 100 feet from any permanent structure.**
- **No sales within 250 feet of a hospital or nursing home.**
- **No sales from a motor vehicle.**
- **No sales within 250 feet of flammable liquid storage or dispensing.**
- **Certificate of Flame Resistance:**

Each tent is required to have a "**Certificate of Flame Resistance**". Tents rented from a commercial rental company will meet this requirement. Renting your tent from a commercial rental company will ensure that it will meet this requirement. During the application phase you were required to attach a copy of this certificate to your application, ensuring that your tent meets this requirement.

***TENTS THAT DO NOT MEET THE FLAME RESISTANCE REQUIREMENTS CANNOT BE USED AS A RETAIL FIREWORKS STAND TENT.***

In addition to the certificate, each tent should have a label attached stating that it meets the Flame Resistance requirements.

- **20 foot wide barricade provided around the tent:**

Each tent is required to have a 20 foot wide barricade constructed around the tent to prevent vehicles from parking next to the tent. If the tent is located on a parking lot or in a field where vehicles can park then the barricade is required. The barricade is to be constructed around all four sides of the tent. Several methods can be used to construct this barricade. Some of these are:

- Cement blocks and landscape timbers
- Metal posts and orange construction fencing
- Metal post and flags
- Orange construction stanchions and ropes

Whatever method is used to construct the barricade it must be:

- Around all four sides of the tent.
- An opening in the barricade can be provided for the main entrance to the tent Easily visible to the drivers of passenger vehicles
- Replaced or repaired if damaged, blown down by wind or knocked down by customers

To measure for the 20 foot wide barricade you will begin at the tent stakes and measure outward away from the tent to 20 feet. (See example.) This form of measurement is to be used on all 4 sides of the tent.

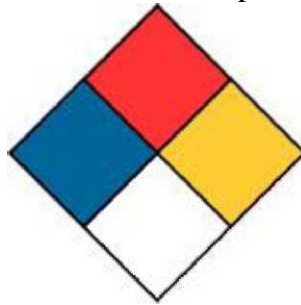


- **Hazardous Materials Identification, also known as NFPA 704 Placards:**

NFPA 704 Placards are to be placed on the outside of the tent where they are easily visible by responding emergency personnel. Placards will need to be placed on all four sides of the tent.

NFPA 704 Placards are to measure no less than 10 inches square. This means that the entire placard is to be no smaller than 10 inches on all four sides. Placards may be larger in size but no smaller.

The NFPA 704 Placard will have 4 smaller different colored squares (red, blue, yellow and white) with a number placed in 3 of the squares. Below is a sample of what a NFPA 704 Placard looks like.



The number 4 is required to be placed in the Blue, Red and Yellow squares. The white square is to be left blank. Each number will need to be at least 4 inches in height. Vinyl peel and stick numbers work the best.

NFPA 704 Placards are to be durable enough to withstand wind and water and to be secured attached to the outside of the tent.

## ***Requirements for the Inside of a Retail Fireworks Stand Tent***

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### **• Occupant load sign:**

Each tent is required to have an Occupant Load sign posted inside. The occupant load tells you how many people can be in the tent at any given time. This includes customers and employees.

The occupant load number is determined by the Fire Department and based on the size of your tent. We have attached a table (See Table A) of common tent sizes available with the occupant load already determined. Locate the size of your tent to determine the occupant load number. This number is to be indicated on your occupant load sign. (See Example)

Occupant load signs are to be easily visible to the public. The letters and numbers are to be black in color, large enough to be seen and contrast with the background paper color.

**TABLE A**

Occupant load, exits, exit widths and number of fire extinguishers Required for each tent based on size (square feet)

Tent Size	Square Foot	Maximum Occupant load	Number of Exits	EXIT width of each EXIT	Number of Fire extinguishers
20 x 20	400	26	2	72 inches	2
20 X 30	600	40	2	72 inches	2
20 X 40	800	53	2	72 inches	2
30 X 30	900	60	2	72 inches	2
30 X 40	1200	80	2	72 inches	2
30 X 45	1350	90	2	72 inches	2
40 X 40	1600	106	2	72 inches	3
30 X 60	1800	120	2	72 inches	3
30 X 75	2250	150	2	72 inches	3
40 X 60	2400	160	2	72 inches	3

- Occupant loads are calculated at 1 person for each 15 square feet
- Number of Exits and Exit widths are based on the 2006 International Fire Code
- If you do not find your tent size, contact the Fire Prevention Division for the requirements. Call (620) 343-4230 and ask to speak with an inspector.

**OCCUPANT**

**LOAD**

**90**

Occupant Load Sign Example

- **NO SMOKING signs:**

**NO SMOKING** signs are to be posted inside the tent (a minimum of 2 signs inside) and on the outside of the tent at the main entrance.

The **NO SMOKING** signs are to be easily visible to the public. We suggest that the signs be commercially manufactured. These types of signs may be purchased at retail stores, home improvement stores or hardware stores.

**NO SMOKING** is to be strictly enforced inside the tent by all employees. This includes cigarettes, cigars and pipes. For safety reasons it is highly suggested that a metal container with sand be placed outside the main entrance, 50 feet away from the tent for customers to discard their smoking materials in. Smoking materials discarded on the ground could potentially be blown by the wind, roll into or be accidentally tossed into the tent.



**Samples of NO SMOKING signs**

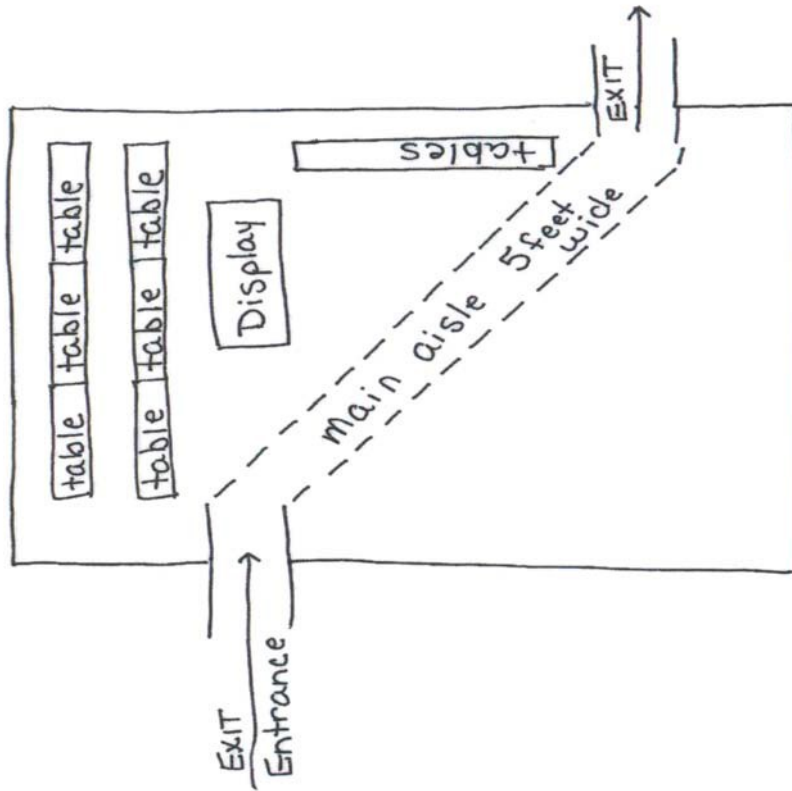
- **EXITS and EXIT Signs:**

Each tent is required to have a minimum of 2 EXITS. These exits are to be located away from each other and are to be a minimum of 6 feet wide. The main entrance will count as one of the 2 required exits. (See **EXIT** Placement diagram for example)

Each required Exit opening is to have an EXIT sign placed inside the tent directly above the opening.

- **EXIT** signs are to be easily visible at all times.
- **EXITS** are required to be kept unobstructed at all times.
- **EXIT** aisles must be kept clear of displays, trash and any other items that may prevent exiting or create a trip hazard.





### **EXIT Placement Diagram**

#### **• Fire Extinguishers:**

Each tent is required to have a minimum of 2 fire extinguishers, no less than 2A 10BC in size. Fire extinguishers may be larger in size but cannot be any smaller than 2A 10 BC.

Based on the size of your tent, more than 2 fire extinguishers may be required.

Fire extinguishers are to be located where they are easily visible and easy to get to in the event of an emergency.

Fire extinguishers may be purchased from a retail store or home improvement store. If purchased make sure that you purchase a 2A 10BC fire extinguisher.

If your fire extinguishers are provided by a commercial fire extinguisher business you will need to ensure that the attached service tag is dated June of this year or later. The date will be punched in the tag. Extinguishers with a service date before June of the previous year will not be acceptable fire extinguishers.

- **Aisle widths:**

Each tent is to provide main aisle widths of no less than 5 feet wide. Main aisle widths are those that go to the **EXITS**. (See **EXIT** Placement diagram for example)

Additional aisle widths are to be no less than 44 inches wide.

Aisle widths are to be maintained at all times and free of any materials.

- **Sales/display tables:**

Sales/display tables are to be arranged so that they **DO NOT BLOCK THE REQUIRED EXITS**.

- **Use of electricity at the retail fireworks stand:**

With a retail fireworks stand comes the use of cash registers or credit card machines. Both require electricity to operate and the electricity can come from different sources, such as existing electrical outlets, temporary power pole or generators. Each of these different methods will have specific requirements.

- **Use of existing electrical outlets, usually from a light pole:**

The only requirement here will be the use of extension cords to provide electricity. The use of extension cords will have to meet the following requirements:

Any extension cord used will have to be a commercial, heavy-duty cord approved for outdoor use.

All extension cords located where vehicles may drive over them or customers can walk over them are required to be protected to prevent abrasion from traffic and to prevent tripping over them. The simple use of duct tape will not work.

The use of light-weight extension cords is strictly prohibited.

- **New temporary power pole or existing temporary power pole:**

If the approved site you have selected does not have an existing source of power, you may decide to have a temporary power pole installed or have an existing temporary power pole re-energized.

The City of Emporia requires an inspection of new electrical service or re-energize existing electrical services for fireworks stands. If you need to call Westar Energy to turn the power on, you will need an inspection first.

New poles or repairs to old stationary, on-site poles that need energized or re-energized must be done by a licensed electrical contractor. Permits must be obtained and inspections passed before Westar will provide service.

If you decide to have a temporary power pole installed or plan to re-energize an existing power pole contact the following department for requirements before proceeding:

- City of Emporia Code Service Department at 521 Market Emporia, Kansas 66801 (620)343-4270.
- Use of extension cords with a temporary power pole must meet the same requirements for use with an existing power source.

• **Use of a portable generator:**

Often times an existing source of power is not available and the retail fireworks stand applicant/owner does not want to install a temporary power pole, so a portable generator may be used. All portable generators will meet the following requirements:

Generators are required to be located 20 feet away from the retail fireworks stand tent. A barricade is to be constructed around the generator to prevent the public from coming into contact with it.

Fuel for gas powered generators is to be stored 50 feet away from the stand tent and in an approved manner. If using a gas powered generator contact the Emporia Fire Department at (620) 343-4230 for additional requirements.

- The refueling of gas powered generators is to be done 20 feet away from the stand tent.
- The use of an extension cords with a generator must meet the same requirements for use with an existing power source or temporary power pole.

• **Use of space heaters:**

The use of space heaters is prohibited unless:

- The heater is a ceramic space heater, and
- The heater has a thermal safety shut-off switch, and
- The heater has a safety shut off that activates if the heater is tipped or falls over

• **Grassy, vacant lot stands locations:**

If your retail fireworks stand is located on a grassy, vacant lot the following will be required:

- All vegetation from where the tent will be located is to be removed.
- All vegetation within 30 feet of the tent sides is to be removed.
- The cleared areas are to be maintained the entire time that the tent is in place.

• **Waste materials:**

Operating and maintaining a retail firework stand tent that is free of combustible waste materials, is a key factor in preventing fires. It is the responsibility of the retail fireworks stand employees to make sure that this is maintained at all times and the following requirements are met:

- The floor area inside the stand tent is to be kept free of combustible materials and waste.
- Combustible waste materials are not allowed to accumulate, outside the tent and within 30 feet of the stand.
- All combustible waste material is to be placed in approved containers until removed from the premises.

**COOKING INSIDE THE TENT OR NEAR THE TENT IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED CITY OF EMPORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OUTSIDE ON-SITE STORAGE OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS INVENTORY**

Retail fireworks stand applicants/owners may wish to store their inventory on-site. If you do choose to store your inventory on-site in a trailer or container the following requirements must be met:

- The storage trailer/container is to be of metal construction.
- The storage trailer/container is to be capable of being locked when inventory is not being removed.
- The trailer/container is to remain locked at all other times.
- Storage trailer/container is to be located a minimum of 20 feet away from any structure, tent or other retail fireworks stand.
- Storage trailer/container is to be located a minimum of 50 feet away from any vehicle fuel station.
- A sign stating “**NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET**” is to be placed on the outside of the storage trailer/container. Below are sample signs.



DOT (Department of Transportation) Placards are to be placed on the storage trailer/container. Placards are to be a minimum of 15 inches by 15 inches and located on 3 sides of the trailer/container.

DOT Placards are required to be orange in color with 1.4 G, noted on the placard. The 1.4G designation is to be 4 inches in height and black in color. The following are samples of the required DOT Placards.



## *Sales Day – June 27<sup>th</sup>*

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**FINALLY!** You are finished with the requirements for the retail stand tent and on-site storage containers. Now comes the most important day... **SALES DAY**, June 27th.

\*\* Before any consumer fireworks can be sold to the public, the last phase of the retail fireworks stand process must be completed, the Fire Department Inspection. Fire Department Inspectors will conduct an inspection of the retail stand on June 27th. Inspectors will start their site inspections as soon as possible and will be checking for requirement compliance. Retail stand tents should be ready before the inspection. Those that are not ready will result in the permit being delayed and not being able to sale fireworks until compliant.

Until the inspection has been completed and the required City of Emporia permit issued, the stand is prohibited from selling fireworks to the public. A sample notice has been attached for use at the stand, which notifies the public that fireworks cannot be sold until the inspection.

(Example)

***FIREWORKS CANNOT BE SOLD TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL THE EMPORIA FIRE INSPECTOR HAS INSPECTED AND APPROVED THE STAND BY ORDER OF THE EMPORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT***

The Fire Department Inspectors will be checking for the following:

- Notice is posted at the main entrance, on the outside, informing the public that fireworks **CANNOT** be sold until the stand has been inspected and the permit issued.
- 20 foot wide barricade is constructed around the tent.
- NFPA 704 Placards are posted on all sides and easily visible.
- Vegetation is removed from the inside of the tent; if on a vacant grassy lot a 30 foot wide area around the outside of the tent is free of vegetation, if on a vacant grassy lot.
- **NO SMOKING** sign is posted outside by the main entrance.
- A receptacle is provided for smoking materials, at least 50 feet away from the tent.
- **NO SMOKING** signs are posted inside the tent.
- Minimum of 2 or more **EXITS** are designated.
- **EXITS** are 6 feet in width.
- **EXIT** signs are placed above the **EXITS** and easily visible.
- Occupant Load sign is posted.
- 2 or more 2A 10BC fire extinguishers are provided and easily visible.
- Fire extinguishers are up to date.
- Required aisle widths are in place.
- Aisles are clear of any items.
- Sales tables do not block the **EXITS**.
- Fireworks for sale have package identification.

- All fireworks for sale are approved Consumer Fireworks.
- Fireworks classified as "Bottle Rockets" are not being sold.
- Fireworks classified as "Sky Lanterns" are not being sold.
- Fireworks classified as "Metal Sparklers" are not being sold.
- All extension cords are commercial heavy-duty cords.
- Extension cords are protected from foot and vehicle traffic/abrasion.
- Generator is located at least 20 feet from the tent, if used Barrier is provided around the generator, if used Fuel storage for a gas generator is stored as authorized, if used.
- Temporary power pole has been inspected and approved by the City of Emporia Electrical Inspector.
- Waste materials are located in approved containers.
- Waste materials have not been discarded next to the tent.
- Proof of commercial general liability insurance.
- Copy of City of Emporia ordinance 17-05 permitting the sale of class C fireworks within the city of Emporia, Ks.
- Copies of fireworks safety flyers to be given to customers.
- Storage trailers/containers are:
  - located 20 feet away from the tent,
  - 50 feet away from a vehicle fuel station
  - Are metal construction and capable of being locked
  - Have DOT Placards
  - Have a "**NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET**" sign posted

***CONGRATULATIONS YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE PROCESS  
YOUR PERMIT HAS BEEN ISSUED AND YOU CAN NOW SELL FIREWORKS***

We have provided 2 additional checklists for the retail fireworks stand. One list is for the retail fireworks stand applicant/owner and the second list is for the stand employee use. Both of these checklists are designed to assist the stand in preparing for the Fire Department inspection.

The City of Emporia City Clerk's Office, Zoning Department and the Fire Department would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide this information to you.

This booklet was designed to assist, explain the phases and requirements, and answer any questions that you may have for a retail fireworks stand, located in the city limits. We would appreciate you taking the opportunity and time to complete the attached survey sheet, regarding this information. Comments received will assist us in the development of a better booklet in the future, if needed.

Again, thank you.

Reason Bradford  
Fire Marshal

## ***Pre-Inspection Checklist Instructions***

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### **• Retail Stand Owners Checklist:**

This checklist is designed to assist retail stand owners in ensuring that any or all items they are providing or items required by the City of Emporia and/or the Emporia Fire Department have been provided to the retail stand site.

### **• Retail Stand Manager and/or Employee Checklist:**

**NOTE:** This checklist is required to be provided to the retail stand managers and/or employees by the retail stand owner (person or company who applied for the stand license)

The check list is designed to assist the retail stand manager and/or employees with the requirements that need to be completed, before the June 27th inspection by the Emporia Fire Department. All applicable items are to be completed before the Fire Department Permit will be issued and the stand can be opened up to the public for sales.

### **Pre-Inspection Checklist for Retail Fireworks Stand Owners**

- ✓ City License provided to tent manager/employee
- ✓ Barricade provided around tent or materials provided to construct barricade
- ✓ NFPA 704 Placards provided for tent
- ✓ NFPA 704 Placards provided for storage trailer/container, if used
- ✓ On-site storage trailer/container provided, if used
- ✓ Padlock & keys provided for on-site storage trailer/container, if used
- ✓ EXIT signs provided
- ✓ NO SMOKING signs provided
- ✓ Occupant load sign provided
- ✓ Possession and Discharge Notice provided
- ✓ No sales until inspection sign provided
- ✓ Fire extinguishers provided
- ✓ Barricade provided around generator or materials provided to construct barricade, if used
- ✓ Protective devices for extension cords
- ✓ Commercial heavy-duty extension cords provided
- ✓ Approved Consumer Fireworks provided for sale.
- ✓ Instructions as to how to handle disapproved/prohibited fireworks
- ✓ Materials provided, that are required by the stand owner

## *Pre-Inspection Checklist for Retail Fireworks Stand Managers or Employees*

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This checklist is designed to assist you with the requirements that need to be completed, prior to June 27th fire department inspection. All items need to be completed before the Fire Department Permit will be issued and the stand can be opened up to the public.

- ✓ City License on site
- ✓ Possession and Discharge Notice, posted on the cash register “ordinance #17-05”
- ✓ A 20 foot wide barricade constructed around the tent
- ✓ NFPA 704 Placards posted on the outside of the tent, 4 sides
- ✓ **NO SMOKING** sign posted outside by the main entrance
- ✓ **NO SMOKING** signs posted inside the tent
- ✓ Occupant Load sign posted inside the tent
- ✓ Required number of **EXIT’S** provided
- ✓ Required width of the **EXIT** provided
- ✓ EXIT signs posted above each designated exit
- ✓ Fire extinguishers placed in visible and accessible locations
- ✓ All extension cords subject to foot or vehicle traffic are protected, with provided devices
- ✓ Sales tables are arranged so not to block required Exit’s
- ✓ Main aisle width of 5 feet is provided
- ✓ Accessory aisles of 44 inches are provided
- ✓ Fireworks for sale are unpacked and set on tables
- ✓ Fireworks inventory is checked for items that may be classified as “Bottle Rockets, Sky Lanterns or Metal Sparklers”. If found they are removed until a determination is made by the Fire Department Inspector. If classified as a “Bottle Rocket, Sky Lantern or Metal Sparkler” they will be seized by local authorities.
- ✓ Aisles are clear of trash, empty boxes, and waste items
- ✓ Receptacle for smoking materials is located outside near the entrance, if provided
- ✓ Generator is located 20 feet away from the tent, if used
- ✓ Barricade is constructed around the generator, if used
- ✓ Fuel for the generator is located at least 50 feet away from the tent, if used
- ✓ On-site storage trailer/container is located 20 feet away from the tent, if used
- ✓ NFPA 704 Placards are placed on the outside of the trailer/container, on 3 sides, if used **NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET** sign is placed on the outside of the storage trailer/container, if used On-site storage trailer/container is locked at all times, unless inventory is being removed by employees
- ✓ Inside of tent is free of grassy vegetation, if located on a vacant grassy lot
- ✓ A 30 foot wide area around the outside of the tent is free of grassy vegetation, if located on a vacant grassy lot
- ✓ Space heaters, if used, are ceramic heaters with built in safety switches that activate when over heated or they have fallen over.
- ✓ Requirements have been completed before the fire inspection.
- ✓ Customer Service Survey



## *Customer Service Survey*

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We would appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to complete this survey (use the back or separate sheet if necessary), regarding the Retail Fireworks Stand Information Booklet. Information obtained will assist us in improving the booklet to provide better customer service. The survey will be confidential and personal information is not required. Thank you for your time and comments. We look forward to providing better service to our customers.

1. Did you apply for a retail fireworks stand permit?

If yes, were you from:

- Emporia
- Lyon County
- Outside Lyon County Outside
- the state of Kansas

2. Were you provided a copy of the informational booklet?

- Did you receive it in person?
- Or was it mailed to you?
- Did you find the information contained in the booklet to be helpful during the Retail Fireworks Stand process?

If not, what can be done to improve the booklet information?

3. What were your over all impressions of the information provided in the booklet?

Your comments matter to us and will be used to improve the informational booklet, if necessary.

Again thank you for your time to complete the survey.

Reason Bradford  
Fire Marshal

Please fax completed survey to (620)341-4395 or mail to Fire Marshal Reason Bradford, Emporia Fire Department, 120 E 5<sup>th</sup>, Emporia, Ks. 66801.

## *Fireworks – FAQ's*

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### **Frequently Asked Questions for the Sale and Discharge, of fireworks in the city limits of Emporia.**

Can fireworks be sold in the City of Emporia?

YES. Consumer Class C fireworks can be sold in the city. However, stands cannot sell fireworks until inspected and passed by the Emporia Fire Department, and a permit issued by the City of Emporia.

What are Consumer fireworks?

These are fireworks classified by the US Department of Transportation as consumer fireworks.

How can I tell if fireworks are legal consumer fireworks?

The firework will be identified by one or a combination of the following: UN0336 or UN0337 Consumer Fireworks 1.4G DOT Class C Consumer Fireworks 1.4G UN0336 Consumer Fireworks UN0336 Consumer Fireworks UN0337 "Safe and Sane" seal from the California State Fire Marshal

What if my fireworks do not have the identification, or is identified with other wording?  
Those are not fireworks that can be legally sold.

Is there anything that cannot be sold in the City of Emporia?

YES. Bottle Rockets, Sky Lanterns, Kongming Lanterns or other uninhabited free floating devices which uses flame heated air to lift the device, and metal sparklers are prohibited from being sold in the city.

When can fireworks be sold?

The sale period is from June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup> ,  
from the hours of 10:00 am – 10:00pm. On July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> the sale hours are 10:00 am to 11:00pm.

Is a permit needed to sell fireworks?

YES. All fireworks stands in the City of Emporia are inspected by the Emporia Fire Department and a permit issued by the City of Emporia before they can be sold. The City of Emporia permit is to be posted in a visible location.

Can fireworks be sold out of my home or from a vehicle or trailer?

NO. Fireworks may only be sold with a permit and in a commercially zoned area.

I have some bottle rockets. Can they be ignited/discharged?

NO. It is illegal to possess, sell, transport or discharge bottle rockets in the State of Kansas. Violation is considered a criminal offence.

Are M-80S and cherry bombs legal?

NO. These fireworks are prohibited by Federal Law.

Can fireworks be ignited/discharged at anytime?

NO. Fireworks can only be ignited/discharged during the following times: June 27<sup>th</sup> through July 2<sup>rd</sup> and on July 5<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 10:00 am - 10:00 pm. On July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am. to 11:00pm.

Can I ignite/discharge fireworks at any time other than the Fourth of July?

NO. Fireworks can only be ignited/discharged during the specified days and times in July of each year.

Can fireworks be sold to young children?

No sales to anyone under 16 years of age unless accompanied by an adult.

Can children under the age of 18 have fireworks?

YES. When under the supervision of an adult or someone over the age of 18.

Can children under the age of 18 ignite / discharge fireworks?

YES. But only when supervised by an adult who is in the physical presence of the child.

My 18-year-old brother/sister is in the house and my 10-year-old brother/sister is shooting fireworks in the driveway, is that legal?

NO. It is unlawful of anyone 18 years old or older to permit a person under the age of 18 to discharge fireworks without adult supervision and being there with them.

Can illegal fireworks be taken away?

YES. They can be confiscated by any law enforcement official, the fire chief, or any authorized member of the fire department.

What happens if someone is convicted of violating the City of Emporia Fireworks Ordinance?

The person will be subject to prosecution of a misdemeanor punishable as a violation of City Code Section 12-1 and subject to the penalties of the City Code Sec. 12-6.

If I see someone violating the City of Emporia Fireworks Ordinance, what do I do? If the violation involves the sale of fireworks, contact the Emporia Fire Department at 620-343-4230 and ask to speak with an Inspector.

If the violation involves illegal fireworks, the discharge of fireworks, or anything other than the sale of fireworks, contact 911 and report the information.