

General Guidelines for the Use of Fireworks in West Manchester Township

- Certain types of consumer fireworks (Class C) and novelty items may be legal for sale and use in West Manchester Twp.
- The legal text can be found at the following site for reference - http://www.psats.org/press_releases_090105_law.html
- Ground and hand-held novelty type items such as sparklers, fountains, smoke bombs, and toy caps are legal for sale and use without a permit. They must be used on private property only.
- All Class C or consumer fireworks require special permits for sale and use. Please refer to the PA State Fireworks Law.
- Class C items are defined as “Any combustible or explosive composition or any substance or combination of substances intended to produce visible or audible effects by combustion and which is suitable for use by the public that complies with the construction, performance, composition and labeling requirements promulgated by the Consumer Products Safety Commission in 16 CFR (relating to commercial practices) or any successor regulation and which complies with the provisions for “consumer fireworks” as defined in the American Pyrotechnics Association (APA) Standard 87-1, or any successor standard.”
- Examples of Class C items are firecrackers, bottle rockets, roman candles, or any item that explodes, shoots into the air, or shoots a projectile.
- Any sale, possession, or use of a Class C consumer firework requires the issuance of a special permit from West Manchester Township.
- You may obtain an application for a permit at the West Manchester Township office located at 380 East Berlin Road, York, PA 17408.

- Permits are only issued to licensed pyrotechnic professionals that have the appropriate credentials, licenses, and insurance. Consumer fireworks may only be used on private property in accordance with strict regulations referenced from the US Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), the PA Office of the Attorney General, the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA), and West Manchester Township.
- Illegal sale, possession, and use of Class C fireworks is punishable by confiscation of the items, along with criminal and/or civil penalties.
- Any questions may be referred to the West Manchester Twp. Fire Department, Fire Chief Dave Nichols at 717-792-3505.