



City of South Haven

PRESS RELEASE

City of South Haven

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Local Media

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REMINDER TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT USE OF FIREWORKS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – (South Haven, Michigan) In early 2012, the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act legalized the sale, possession, and use of consumer fireworks in Michigan. This law has been since modified by the legislature and presently is enforced by the South Haven Police Department using the following excerpts from Public Act 256 which took effect January 1, 2012 as a general guideline.

“A person shall not ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on public property, school property, church property, or the property of another person without that organization’s or person’s express permission to use those fireworks on those premises. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person that violates this subsection is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than \$500.00.”

“Consumer fireworks” means fireworks devices that are designed to produce visible effects by combustion, that are required to comply with the construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations promulgated by the United States consumer product safety commission under 16 CFR parts 1500 and 1507, and that are listed in APA standard 87-1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, or 3.5.

The City of South Haven by amendment to the ordinance has further regulated the use of fireworks by permitting the use of fireworks ONLY on the day preceding, the day of, and the day after a national holiday, except between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. The designated national holidays are as follows: New Year's Day, January 1, Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday (the third Monday in January), Inauguration Day (January 20, following a presidential election), Presidents Day (the third Monday in February), Memorial Day (the last Monday in May),

Independence Day July 4, Labor Day (the first Monday in September), Columbus Day (the second Monday in October), Veterans Day November 11, Thanksgiving Day (the fourth Thursday in November), and Christmas Day December 25.

Simply stated, the use of “consumer fireworks” is only permitted between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. on the day before, the day of, and the day after a national holiday.

Note: As a general guideline: Most bottle rockets, smoke balls, firecrackers, and other fireworks that emit very little or no light, roman candles, sparklers, jumping jacks, artillery shells, and other light-emitting may be considered “Consumer Fireworks”.

For more information, contact: South Haven Police Chief Natalie Thompson, 269-637-5151 or nthompson@south-haven.com

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