



Manchester Police Department

MANCHESTER
Mayor Ryan Warner



POLICE
Chief John Hess

June 6, 2019

To whom it may concern;

Recently we have received complaints regarding the use of fireworks. Please be mindful of your neighbors.

Laws governing the use of Fireworks in the State of Maryland clearly say that any type of display is illegal when a permit is not issued and required insurance is not secured. A few highlights are as follows:

- **Not in my backyard.** Or any backyard. Absolutely no private display of fireworks in Maryland is permitted by law. Fireworks displays are only allowed when a permit is issued by the Fire Marshall and the requisite insurance coverage is in place.
- **What if the fireworks were purchased out of state?** If you bought them there, use them there. It is illegal to transport fireworks, even if purchased legally elsewhere, into Maryland.
- **Boom means doom!** If a hand-held or ground-based device generates an explosion, detonation or other loud noise or in any way propels a projectile either along the ground or through the air, it is illegal for private citizens to use. [Examples](#) include Cherry Bombs, M-80s, Smoke Bombs, Roman Candles, Sky Rockets and any firework shot from a mortar tube, just to list a few.
- **“What if I just go ahead and use fireworks in Maryland anyway?”** Although you probably won’t go to jail if you’re caught in possession of or discharging fireworks in Maryland, you can expect: 1) Your fireworks to be confiscated; 2) You may be given a criminal citation; and 3) You may be assessed a fine of up to \$250 for possession/discharge and up to \$1,000 for sale without a permit. You will also be subject to fines for identified infractions by the Town of Manchester; which will result in a \$100 fine for each infraction.

Noise complaints in accordance with the Town’s Code, are strictly enforced between the hours of 10 PM to 7 AM Monday thru Friday and 10 PM to 9 AM on Saturday and Sundays; unless otherwise stated in an approved permit.

I’m respectfully asking for your cooperation regarding Maryland State Law, Town Codes and my request/advice. I hope this will assist you and I hope you have a safe summer and upcoming Fourth of July Holiday.

John Hess
Police Chief,
Manchester, Maryland

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