



FIREWORKS

The Roles of OSFM & Local Agencies

Oregon Revised Statute 480.111-480.165 grants authority to specific entities to conduct certain activities. Under these ORS's the OSFM is mandated to issue licenses for the wholesale of fireworks, permits for retail sales of consumer fireworks and for using fireworks in displays, the entertainment industry, and pest control (agricultural) purposes. The OSFM Regulatory Services Branch also provides information regarding the fireworks statutes and rules; helps facilitate assistance from OSP when appropriate; provides guidance and information to local law enforcement agencies regarding seizure, storage, and pick up of fireworks; and helps facilitate the destruction of seized fireworks.



The fireworks statutes provide for local authorities to control fireworks in their communities.

- **ORS 480.140** places the supervision of fireworks displays under the local fire and police agency or in unprotected areas, the county court.
- **ORS 480.160** has provisions for local regulation of fireworks.
- **OAR 837-012-0860 (9-11)** requires displays to be postponed or discontinued by the local authority if there are adverse conditions, lack of crowd control, or significant weather conditions that affect safety recognized by the local fire or law enforcement authority.
- **ORS 480.120 (2)** requires law enforcement agencies of the state, county, or municipality to enforce the provisions of ORS 480.111-480.165.

On the reverse is a matrix that summarizes the roles of OSFM and local authorities relating to the retail sales of consumer fireworks, fireworks displays, and enforcement activities.

Consumer Fireworks Sales, Displays, & Enforcement Activities Matrix

Fireworks Activity	Local Role		Office of State Fire Marshal	
	Protected Areas	Unprotected Areas	OSFM Deputy Role	OSFM Role
Retail sales of consumer fireworks (includes storage of consumer fireworks)	Local fire approval signature on application; (does not include private fire departments)	None	Fire authority approval signature on application in unprotected areas only	Issues the permit
Display of fireworks	Local fire (does not include private fire departments) and law enforcement approval signatures on application	Approval signature on application by County court or their designee	Can provide technical assistance to the court or designee	Issues the permit
Enforcement/seizure of small quantities of illegal fireworks	Local law enforcement	Local law enforcement	None	None
Enforcement/seizure of large quantity of illegal fireworks	Local law enforcement or OSP Explosives Unit	Local law enforcement or OSP Explosives Unit	None	Can help facilitate OSP assistance when appropriate
Improvised devices handling and seizure	Local law enforcement/explosives unit or OSP Explosives Unit	Local law enforcement/explosives unit or OSP Explosives Unit	None	Can help facilitate OSP assistance when appropriate