

Fireworks Bylaw Statement

Good Morning Council. My name is Tina Bichel and I reside at Star Lake Estates. I would like to offer an Amendment to Section 50 of this bylaw.

Instead of reading

50 No fireworks shall be used or discharged within Restricted Burn Areas having a lot size less than 4 hectares.

I would recommend the following:

A permit will be issued to any resident who applies for a fireworks permit at least 30 days before the activity date.

Neighbouring residents shall be notified and have 10 days to appeal the permit to Fire Services.

Fire Services will be authorised, at his/her sole discretion, to give a ruling on the appeal.

Society, in general, follows societal rules and laws. Unfortunately, society has a select few who do not and we need these bylaws to keep order in our community. Sometimes the bylaws make sense and sometimes they do not. What often offends me is that those writing our bylaws do so, by not considering that society in general is good, but consider only those who are not.

When our family discharges fireworks on our 4 acre lot, it is only on New Years Eve and is the highlight of our 13 and $\frac{3}{4}$ grandchildrens Christmas. We have always informed our neighbours that we will be discharging fireworks on that night and now that we have a Star Lake Estates facebook page it also is posted there. The comments back from our neighbours are typically....when???

Can we come over? The answer is always yes!

The property across the road from us to the east is 80 acres. Their home is located at the first 2 acres to the west, approximately 400 feet from our home. If they were to discharge fireworks, they wouldn't be doing it in the middle of their property, they would do it near their home. Again, I'll repeat approximately 400 feet from our home. What is the difference between the discharge of fireworks at their yard or from ours? Keeping in mind that we would receive no notification that they would be discharging fireworks.

I've been told that the discharge of fireworks in residential neighbourhoods is detrimental to animals, particularly horses and particularly in the east section of Parkland County. While I am sympathetic regarding that issue I'd like to bring up another perspective regarding what can be detrimental to many other animals. The same neighbour I referred to previously is allowed to discharge firearms on their property. Our dog is extremely frightened when they are discharging their firearms and literally shakes and hides in the furthest corner of our garage. We receive no warning when they are going to discharge their firearms. Under my proposed amendment, regarding the fireworks discharge, neighbouring residents would be given notice of the discharge and will be able to adequately prepare their animals and pets.

So again, please provide an answer to the difference between the discharge of fireworks at my neighbours yard or ours and why there would be no notification to neighbouring residents?

Thank you