

Fire Services Bylaw

Responses

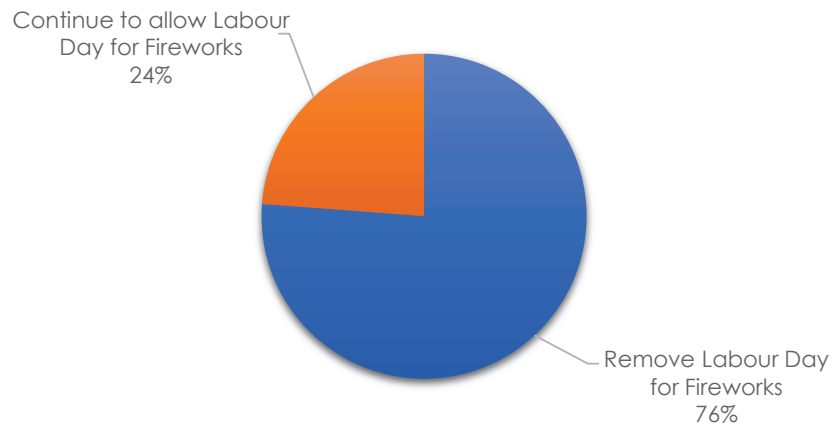
Number of responses to the online and hard copy survey: 22

Residency

Percent of respondents who identified as residents of Parkland County: 96%

Specific Question: Allowed Fireworks Days

Survey Question: *Of specific interest to Parkland County Council is the potential to change the number of days in which the discharge of fireworks in the County is permitted. Currently, the three permitted days are Canada Day (July 1), Labour Day (early September), and New Year's Eve (December 31). Due to increased fire risk in the fall season, Parkland County is proposing that Labour Day no longer be a day on which the discharge of fireworks be permitted. Which selection would you suggest for the use of fireworks in the County?*



Other Comments on Allowed Fireworks Days

Survey Question: *If you have any other comments about days on which fireworks should be allowed to be discharged in Parkland County, please note them here:*

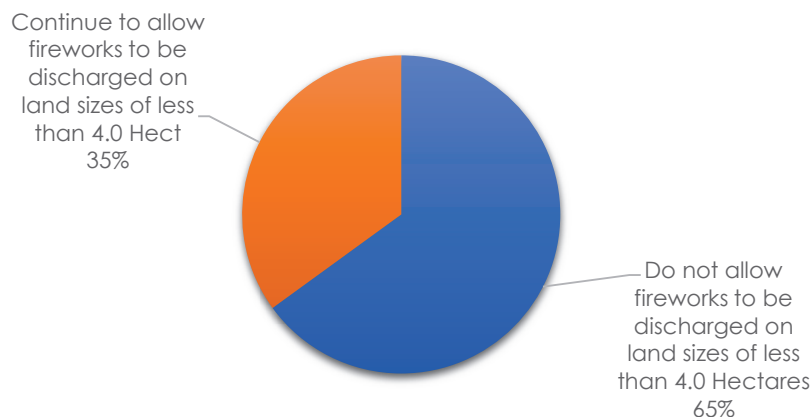
- Fireworks are a high risk for fires and injuries to nearby property, animals and people. Many counties have banned fireworks in any rural subdivisions. Discontinue the use of any kind of fireworks please
- Fireworks are discharged frequently on days where they are not allowed putting livestock and pets at risk. The fines are paltry relative to the cost of fireworks. Steeper fines are required. Permit holders should be obligated to notify neighbours. Thanks
- Fireworks don't belong in small subdivisions or at anytime there is a risk from a fire
- I am not a big fan of fireworks within any residential acreages at all due to animals (dogs and horses) that are very sensitive to these loud noises.
- If fireworks are going to continued to be allowed in the County, this is a small step in the right direction.
- Leave labour day in place as is. The argument about removing it due to weather and ground conditions is not strong as we could have the same conditions on Canada day. Typically in September the ground is in

satisfactory condition and we should allow them, obviously coinciding with any restrictions or bans.

- More education is required for the residence of Parkland County. In a lot of subdivisions residence are not aware that there are restricted days that Only permit the Use of Fireworks. In my subdivision it seems that anybody's Birthday etc. is a day to set off fireworks.
- Stop the vendor permit for fireworks idea. Enough red tape exists. Stop already!
- There need to be much more patrolling on fireworks. People around Jackfish Lake continually set fireworks, average 4 days a week. This is wrong!! People try to sleep, have animals and now fireworks aren't even exciting anymore. Police NEED to patrol this more!!!
- Vendor license is a good idea, however, not sure how you would enforce. You could enforce vendors selling fireworks in the County but it wont stop people going to another municipality and buying fireworks to discharge in Parkland County
- When there is a fire ban on. No fireworks are allowed. This is the way it should be. The bylaws aren't stopping people. They are just making them go and do it away from their home in fear of being caught.
- Would like to see stiffer fines for those that discharge fireworks when not permitted. I know it is hard to enforce but would be nice to see if someone is reporting a neighbor for discharging fireworks what proof do they need to give in order for a fine to be issued.

Specific Question: Minimum Land Size for Fireworks

Survey Question: *A major change being contemplated in this bylaw is that fireworks would no longer be allowed to be discharged on land sizes less than 4.0 Hectares (9.9 Acres). Parkland County has proposed this change to reduce fire risk to neighbouring properties and to limit the impact to people and animals. Which selection would you suggest for the use of fireworks in the County?*



Other Comments on Minimum Land Size for Fireworks

Survey Question: *If you have any other comments about the use of fireworks on land sizes of less than 4.0 Hectares (9.9 Acres) in Parkland County, please note them here:*

- Again, a step in the right direction.
- Again, hard to enforce so need to consider how to show proof in order for fines to be issued.
- Also do not let them be discharged in hamlets or villages
- Bank all use in subdivisions. Home owners should check with their insurance companies if they are covered in the liability
- Fireworks, on any given weekend, happen withing residential, multi-parcel acreage subdivisions all the time. I believe that most of the people setting these off are not aware of the bylaw requirements, they've moved to the country and believe it is OK. Education is required, along with a more efficient method of enforcing this as it typically happens late at night and calling 911 just seems overkill. Changing the bylaw as highlighted above would make this illegal, and if the proper education or notification of residents is done, may curb the majority of the problems.
- I am not a big fan of fireworks within any residential acreages at all due to animals (dogs and horses) that are very sensitive to these loud noises.
- I'm suggesting you ban fireworks completely
- Leave the status quo. Let people live freely.
- More education and enforcement is required on when the use of Fireworks are permitted.
- Patrol more, BAN FIREWORKS!!!! Me need our land!!!
- Should be based on proximity to tree lines not size and based on fire conditions. Even limits on type of fireworks discharged.
- Unless there have been significant concerns, I believe it would be unfair to limit people further. Many people would end up illegally shooting off fireworks regardless which would cause more issues. A lot of residents do not have the luxury of having 10 acres for these activities.

Considerations for an Updated Bylaw

Survey Question: *Other than the changes noted above, is there anything else that you think County Council should consider in its review of the Parkland County Fire Services Bylaw?*

- Allow unscreened fire pits. We have a gravel area surrounding our fire pits. Great spark suppression.
- Do we need to have a look at burning garbage in burn barrels? This County is still burning garbage?
- I don't believe that retailers should be limited to when commercial fireworks should be sold. Many people purchase fireworks while passing through to go to vacation or weekend properties outside of Parkland County. This change of 14 days prior to approved days would limit vendors opportunity to have positive revenues and turn over product.
- I would like to see a complete ban on firework being discharge by residents in the County. As a licenced pyro technician, I have nothing against fireworks. They should not be set off be the average person, in residential areas. The fire risk is too high, and getting higher every year. Residents already shoot off fireworks when ever they want, any day of the year, so a total ban would lesson the confusion as to when they are allowed. I fear for my safety every

some when I hear them going off. It's just a matter of time until someone burns down a subdivision or 10. Thank you.

- No more permits. No vendor permit to sell fireworks in the County needed.
- Nothing I can Think Of.
- There is mention of the requirements for a permit to sell fireworks, however I see no mention that those selling fireworks must see fireworks permit from the purchaser before they can sell them (similar the requirement to see a liquor permit).
- This County has free range on what you can burn. Everyone knows what burning barrels are for and that's to burn garbage. What's the long-range plan for air quality and reduced fire risk?

Other Comments about the Fire Services Bylaw

Survey Question: *Is there anything else you would like to say as part of this Fire Services Bylaw review in Parkland County?*

- If a resident receives a fire permit; and someone calls a fire in; there's no need to dispatch fire departments. This has happened more than once. Controlled fire signs up; and such a waste of resources other than "volunteer firefighters" to fill their pockets! A simple call to check is all that's needed!
- None
- The bylaw wording for fireworks seems to focus on the danger of fires, however just as important is the nuisance to neighbors who are disturbed by the noise. People get disturbed when they are trying to sleep, animals (dogs, horses, cattle) get spooked and do damage to property and injury to themselves. These should be clearly covered.