



Fire Permit Bylaw

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Purpose

- ▶ This Parkland County Bylaw increases safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property;
- ▶ Major items this bylaw governs are: fires, fireworks, and permits.

Bylaw Time Line

2008 Edition Bylaw

Burning restrictions increased from previous bylaw

Fireworks restrictions were increased from the previous bylaw

Passed 12th May 2009
Rescinded 06-2011

2011 Edition Bylaw

Large Revamp

Public Consultation

Burning restrictions were reduced

Fireworks restrictions were reduced

Passed 26th June 2011
Rescinded by Bylaw 22-2012

2012 Edition Bylaw

Technical recommendations were presented and passed by council.

Passed 10th July 2012

Fireworks Time Line

2008 Edition Bylaw

All Fireworks were limited to Canada Day, Labour Day, and New Years only.

Retailers could only sell fireworks 14 days before the three days listed above.

2011 Edition Bylaw

Multi-Parcel Subdivisions: All Fireworks were limited to Canada Day, Labour Day, and New Years only.

Multi-Parcel Subdivisions: With a permit, a certified pyrotechnician with liability coverage can conduct a fireworks display any day of the year.

Those residing outside of subdivisions and on a parcel greater than 10 acres were able to discharge any day of the year with a single day fireworks permit.

Retailers could sell Fireworks any day of the year with a valid permit.

2012 Edition Bylaw

All Fireworks are limited to Canada Day, Labour Day, and New Years only.

Retailers can only sell fireworks 14 day before the three days listed above.

2012

- ▶ A recommendation was presented to Council to alter three statements:

1. Section 2.1.dd “Prohibited Debris” by adding “as amended” at the end of the sentence
2. Section 8.1 changed to “The Owner of the property upon which Fireworks are discharged, an Outdoor Fire is lit or a Structure Fire is lit, with the necessary Fire Permit required by this Bylaw, or while a Fire Ban is in effect, is guilty of an offence under this Bylaw.”
 - ▶ Peace Officers will not be required to prove who discharged the fireworks or lit a fire, rather just the property owner,

3. Adding Section 8.23 “When a fire is lit under the circumstances described in sections 8.9, 8.10, 8.11, 8.16, 8.17, 8.19 and 8.22 the Owner of the Property shall:
 - ▶ Extinguish the fire immediately; or
 - ▶ If unable to extinguish the fire immediately, report the fire to the Fire Department; and
 - ▶ Be liable to the costs incurred by the County to respond, suppress and extinguish the fire.”

Problem with Bylaw

- ▶ The 2012 Bylaw had additional changes that impacted fireworks.
- ▶ Council's Intent:
 - ▶ 2011 - To reduce the restriction on Fireworks in Parkland County
 - ▶ 2012 – Only approve the technical recommendations.

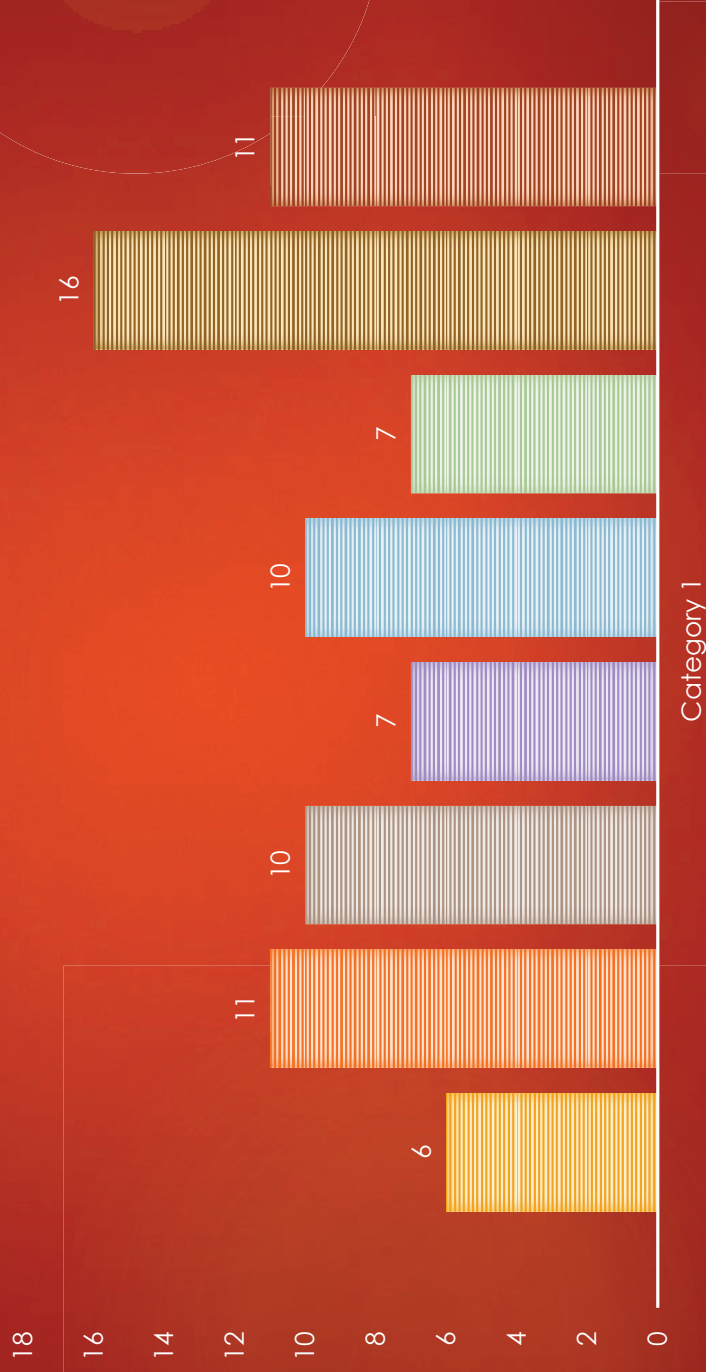
Fireworks in Parkland County

- ▶ Six known vendors sell fireworks, only three vendors have a permit to sell. Permits to sell fireworks are under the authority of the Safety Codes Act.
- ▶ In recent inspections of the six vendors, five of the vendors were not complaint with the Alberta Fire Code conditions to sell fireworks. This includes such things as:
 - ▶ Selling fireworks unlawfully to people without permits,
 - ▶ Selling fireworks to people who are discharging fireworks in jurisdictions where fireworks are banned,
 - ▶ Failing to maintain required documentation,
 - ▶ Storage to much product, and
 - ▶ Improper and unsafe storage.

Fireworks in Parkland County

▲ Parkland County Enforcement Services complaints on fireworks

■ 2008 ■ 2009 ■ 2010 ■ 2011 ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015



Fireworks in Parkland County

- ▶ RCMP is unable to produce statistics on their fireworks complaints in Parkland County
- ▶ Fire Services does not track outside fires caused by fireworks. Outside fires are not investigated, they are only extinguished and fire crews return to their fire stations.

Fireworks in Parkland County

- ▶ Permits are free. Our paper permit provides a lot of information on the safe care and handling of fireworks.

▶ Major Issue Is Education

- ▶ Fireworks need to be respected for their hazards. They are explosive devices that have the potential to cause serious injury and ignite fires.
- ▶ Vendors, the public and residents need to be more educated on the Provincial and Municipal restrictions applied to fireworks.
- ▶ Safety and compliance has to be improved.

Fireworks in Parkland County

- ▶ Vendor Feed Back
 - ▶ Requirements for selling fireworks are too restrictive,
 - ▶ Want to be able to sell to consumers who do not have a permit,
 - ▶ Want the ability to issue fireworks permits at the time of sale, and
 - ▶ Advise that consumers are purchasing fireworks outside of Parkland County and discharging in the County without Permit

Fireworks in Parkland County

- ▶ Resident Feed Back
 - ▶ Noise/Nuisance Issue, particularly in the summer months when dusk is later in the evening, and
 - ▶ Stress on agriculture, most specifically livestock.

Fireworks in Parkland County

- ▶ Consumer Feed Back
 - ▶ Want the ability to purchase fireworks at a moment's notice, and
 - ▶ Want the ability to obtain a fireworks permit for days outside of the three days allowed under the 2011 Bylaw

Moving Forward

Options

1. Rewrite the Fire Permit Bylaw to match Council's intent of the 2011 amendments.
2. Eliminate fireworks from the Fire Permit Bylaw and only enforce Provincial legislation, or
2. Create two separate bylaws, one for fireworks and one for fire regulations.