



Application for a fireworks event permit

Applying for a fireworks event permit including a fireworks event notice



Applying for a permit

Introduction

The use of fireworks by the general public is banned in Western Australia, except for unrestricted fireworks such as bon-bons, party poppers, Christmas crackers, throwdowns and sparklers. Fireworks events are strictly regulated to ensure that the public is safe to enjoy the wonderful spectacle of fireworks.

Fireworks events across the State are often set up to coincide with annual events within a local area, as an attraction at major sporting carnivals, and New Year's Eve festivities where large numbers of people will be congregating. Fireworks events are also held for private occasions including weddings and birthdays.

There is now a Western Australian outdoor fireworks Code of Practice and fireworks contractors and fireworks operators are both required to ensure that all matters associated with the management and operation of displays including testing, storage, and transport conforms to the code, or alternative safety measures.

The Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007 also prescribe a number of prohibited fireworks that even licensed fireworks contractors are not permitted to use including large salutes, crackers and sky rockets.

Permits

The issue of permits for fireworks events (previously referred to as fireworks displays) is not a new requirement. The major change is that **only a licensed fireworks contractor can apply for a Fireworks Event Permit**.

Fireworks Event Permits are issued by Resources Safety for outdoor fireworks displays and are required for each display or for a group of consecutive displays at the same venue where the intervening time is not greater than 48 hours.

Only a **licensed fireworks operator**, or someone working in the presence of a licensed operator, may actually **set up and initiate** fireworks at a fireworks event. A shotfirer has no authority to purchase or use fireworks.

*(persons wishing to obtain either of the above-mentioned licences should refer to the application forms listed under **reference material** below)*

Testing of fireworks

Fireworks identical to the ones to be used at a fireworks event must have been tested by the fireworks contractor in a proper manner prior to the event. The testing must be carried out at a place where:

- the public is not present;
- the firework can be used safely;
- the initiating system can be evaluated;
- the effects of the use of the firework can be observed safely; and

- any risk in relation to the firework in respect to people, property and environment is reduced as far as is reasonably practicable.

Preliminary approvals

The nature of fireworks events make it necessary for Resources Safety to cooperate with other agencies and organisations when issuing permits.

Prior to the assessment of an application by Resources Safety, a fireworks contractor must lodge a **fireworks event notice** with the local government authority, the WA Police, and the Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA (FESA). Large displays can create a major logistical exercise for local authorities, fire brigade, police and other emergency services. Depending on the location of the display, approvals may also need to be sought from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Swan River Trust, and the Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Marine Safety Branch).

Issues such as location, time of the day and year that the event is to be held, type of fireworks being used, (e.g. aerial shells, static displays), distance to nearby facilities and aircraft flight paths can all impact on whether an event permit is granted.

Fireworks contractors need to be aware of the lead times required by the various authorities involved, to avoid undue delays in lodging the completed application to Resources Safety at least 14 days prior to the event. Completed fireworks event notices received from all parties must be attached to the application for a Fireworks Event Permit.

(A Fireworks Event Notice proforma is attached to the back of this application form and can be copied for distribution to the various authorities).

Reference material

Further information can be found in the following publications:

- *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*
- Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007 (download copies of the Act and regulations free from the State Law Publisher at www.slp.wa.gov.au)
- Western Australian outdoors fireworks - Code of Practice
- Application for a Fireworks Contractor licence
- Application for a Fireworks Operator licence
- Schedule of prescribed fees and charges for dangerous goods licences

(available from the Resources Safety website at www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ResourcesSafety)

- Australian Standard AS 2187.1-1998 – Explosives – storage, transport and use – storage (copies of Australian Standards are available from SAI Global, Phone: 13 12 42 or www.saiglobal.com/shop)

Police and Fire Services requirements and approvals

Police

Your Fireworks Event Notice for the event must be endorsed at the police station for the area. This ensures that police know an event is being held, and can prepare for any incidents that may arise or when calls are received from concerned members of the public.

Fire Services

As part of the application assessment, fireworks contractors must comply with the following Fire and Emergency Services Authority's (FESA) requirements.

1. The *Bush Fires Act 1954* and regulations, particularly r. 39E.
2. Fireworks are banned when the Minister has declared a **bush fires emergency** period for the area (refer section 21 of the Act).
3. For fireworks events during restricted and prohibited burning times, the fireworks contractor must ensure that a fire-fighting vehicle (appliance) with two operators is in attendance. The two operators must be equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment and trained to bush fire fighter modules 1, 2 and 3 (or equivalent). The fire fighting vehicle must:
 - have a water carrying capacity of at least 500 litres;
 - be fitted with at least 20 m of 19 mm diameter rubber hose;
 - have a pump capable of delivering 120 litres of water per minute at 700 kPa through an adjustable nozzle having a full spray pattern capable of projecting a 6 m jet of water; and
 - be capable of traversing the area where the display (and fallout areas) is held.

The relevant Local Government Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (LGCBFCO) or FESA Fire Services Manager (FSM) may provide an exemption from the above fire fighting appliance requirements for the purposes of the event. Please note that this exemption is not applicable on **very high** or **extreme** fire danger days.
4. In addition to requirement 3 above, on days when a **very high** fire danger exists, only the following fireworks events are permitted:
 - ground fireworks and aerial shells discharged over water; or
 - ground fireworks and aerial shells discharged in urban areas with a negligible building or bush fire risk, with sufficient fire fighting resources (as agreed by the LGCBFCO or FESA FSM) being made available.
5. In addition to requirement 3 above, on days when the fire danger for the area is **extreme** (as forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology), only the following fireworks events are permitted:
 - ground fireworks and aerial shells discharged over water from barges; or
 - ground fireworks, but not aerial shells, in urban areas with a negligible building or bush fire risk, with sufficient fire fighting resources (as agreed by the LGCBFCO or FESA FSM) being made available.
6. In addition to requirement 3 above, on days when the fire danger is **very high** or **extreme**, the fireworks contractor must advise one of the following that it will be complying with the conditions on the application.
 - FESA ComCen (ph. 9323 9333) for events within the Perth metropolitan area;
 - LGCBFCO for events in regional areas excluding townsites covered by the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS); or
 - local FESA FSM for regional townsites covered by FRS.
7. One day's notice must always be given to the Bush Fire Control Officer for the district, and Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) officer if fireworks events are to occur within 3 km of a DEC estate.
8. A Fireworks Event Notice must be supplied to the relevant Fire Services Authority (i.e. the applicable LGCBFCO or relevant local FESA FSM) **at least 20 days prior to the fireworks event.**

Note: Please consult the local government authority in the area where the event is to be conducted as restricted and prohibited burning times may vary within Western Australia due to seasonal changes. Should any incident (such as fire) occur during the event, the fireworks operator is to call FESA immediately on 000.

Local government approval

Your application for an event permit will only be processed if it has been acknowledged in a Fireworks Event Notice by the local government authority. To minimise delays, the local government authority for the area should be approached **at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the event**.

Approval from the local government authority is required, as fireworks events may be subject to local by-law provisions. Council can also ensure that provisions are made for issues such as traffic control and noise abatement.

Preferred hours

Where displays are to be held outside:

- Sunday to Thursday, 8.00 am to 9.00 pm; or
- Friday and Saturday, 8.00 am to 10.00 pm;

the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the local government authority or a representative (with delegated authority to endorse fireworks events under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995) must complete a Fireworks Event Notice.

Other special acknowledgements and notifications

If fireworks events are to be held under **aircraft flight paths**, on waterways and foreshore areas, on the beach or near the coast, or on the roofs of buildings, prior acknowledgement must be obtained from the organisation with overriding responsibility. This may be:

- Civil Aviation Safety Authority;
- Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Marine Safety Branch);
- Department of Water; or
- Swan River Trust.

Fireworks events while entertaining can be loud and may be disturbing to residents and facilities in the vicinity. As part of good community consultation, the fireworks contractor must ensure that any health care facility, place of public assembly, horseracing facility or animal shelter within 500 m of the launch point is notified several days before the event. Notification in the form of personal contact or via a specific letterbox drop is preferred, as normal mail deliveries can be delayed and may not arrive until after the event.

Site plan, site details, separation distances and clearance distances

Site plans

A scaled site plan (minimum A4 in size) must be submitted with the application showing:

- a circle with a radius of 250 m from the firing point (dry grass in this area must be no more than 50 mm in height);
- point(s) of launch;
- any overhead obstructions, such as powerlines, trees and towers;
- distances provided between point(s) of launch and
 - protected works (e.g. spectators, carparks, thoroughfares, buildings, roadways)
 - dangerous goods stores
 - bush fire fuels such as bush, grass, crops and forest

(a marked-up copy of the relevant area from a street directory or an aerial photo of the area may be used);

- the location and extent of the fallout area (the event must be cancelled where fallout would occur outside of the nominated fallout area); and
- a north point.

Clearance distances

Complete the table in section 5 as per the Western Australian outdoor fireworks - Code of Practice.

The discharge of fireworks from elevated positions, such as the roof of a building, has its own unique characteristics that include fallout and dispersion of hot and burning material to surrounding areas. Please refer to the Western Australian outdoor fireworks - Code of Practice if your event fits into this category.

The table in section 5 of the application form must be completed if fireworks are to be fired from an elevated platform.

Temporary storage at the event site

Fireworks may be stored at the event site without an Explosives Storage Licence but subject to minimum requirements being met including that:

- storage is restricted to the site of the event or as near as practicable to that site where minimum separation distances appropriate to the quantity and hazard division of the fireworks can be achieved;
- the minimum separation distances to occupied buildings are in accordance with Australian Standard AS 2187.1-1998 for protected works Class B;
- minimum separation distances are in accordance with the most dangerous hazard division stored;
- storage outside of buildings is only permitted within spark-proof receptacles sufficiently secure to prevent unauthorised access (overnight storage in public areas may require additional security);
- fireworks are not assembled or prepared within 30 m of the storage, during which time the door to the fireworks container must remain closed; and
- the storage is clear of all combustible material and sources of ignition for a minimum distance of 8 m, and at least 20 m from other dangerous goods.

Public liability insurance

There have been incidents before, during or after fireworks events where members of the public have suffered property damage, personal injury or other damage arising out of the event. It is therefore mandatory for the fireworks contractor to hold a

current public liability insurance policy. The value is to a minimum of \$5,000,000, or greater as required by appropriate authorities, to cover the fireworks event. Details of the policy must be recorded on the application form.

Application form

Complete the application section, including the checklist and attach all the required information. **Lodgement of an incomplete application may increase the time it takes to issue you with a permit and deficient applications may be returned to the applicant.**

NOTE: Please refer to the schedule of fees on the Resources Safety website for current fee applicable to this application.

Contact details

Tel: (08) 9358 8001
 Fax: (08) 9358 8000
 Email: rsdclientservices@dmp.wa.gov.au
 Website: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ResourcesSafety for fees, forms, FAQs, guidance material and publications.

Applications must be received by Resources Safety at least 14 days prior to the date of the event.



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Mines and Petroleum**
Resources Safety

Application for a fireworks event permit

Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004
Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007

ABN: 69 410 335 350

Application no. *(office use only)*

EFD



1. Event details

Please complete the table below in respect to the date and times for the display. Where an event incorporates several displays (e.g. Perth Royal Show) all display dates and times must be listed. The intervals between displays must not be greater than 48 hours. Where a display commences before midnight and ends after midnight then both dates are to be listed.

Event start date	Start time (am/pm)	Finish date	Finish time (am/pm)

(attach a separate sheet if space above is insufficient)

Purpose of event

Location

Property name

Address

Unit no. Street no. Lot no. Street

Town/suburb Postcode

Major centre (for country displays)

2. Applicant details (applicant can only be a licensed fireworks contractor)

Name (company name, or full name if a person)

Fireworks contractor licence no.

Contact name

Name

Phone (day) (after hours) Mobile

Email

Postal address

Unit no. Street no. Lot no. Street

PO box no. Town/suburb State Postcode

3. Event organiser (person or organisation that is funding the event)

Name

4. Fireworks operator details

Full name of fireworks operator

Fireworks operator licence number Phone

Licence endorsement (please tick box)

Ground fireworks operator Restricted fireworks operator Professional fireworks operator

5. Fireworks details

Supplier of fireworks

Display type (please tick) Ground Aerial Elevated platform

Diameter of largest aerial shell (mm) Total explosives quantity (NEQ)

Aerial shells

Quantity	Description		Diam. size (mm)
		@	
		@	
		@	
		@	
		@	

Ground fireworks

Quantity	Description

Temporary storage (means overnight storage near the display site) Yes No

If 'Yes', what is the: Hazard division Distance to nearest occupied building (m)

Method of crowd control from firing point

Clearance distances

Per AS2187.4 table 3.2.2, complete the shaded and unshaded areas of the table appropriate to the display type.
 Note that elevated ground fireworks have special clearance distances, described in the Western Australian outdoor fireworks - Code of Practice.

Display type	Clearance distance (m) as per Code of Practice		Actual clearance distance (m) provided to	
	Spectators & buildings	Dangerous goods stores	Spectators & buildings	Dangerous goods stores
Ground				
Aerial				

6. Public liability insurance

Name of insurer	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Policy no.	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
Amount of cover	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Expiry date	<input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> / <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> / <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/>

7. Fireworks event notice

Approvals and acknowledgements

A fireworks event notice must be completed and attached to this application from the following:

- WA Police
- Fire Services (FESA)
- Local government authority (including specific acknowledgement from CEO if required)
- Airport Manager (if proposed event will be within 5km of an airport boundary)

Has the Local Government Chief Bush Control Officer or FESA Fire Services Manager provided an exemption from the fire fighting appliance requirements for the purposes of the display as per additional FESA requirements in the information section to this application form? Yes N/A

Additional requirements from other organisations if the fireworks event is:

- Wholly or partly within the foreshore of the Swan and Canning rivers
- has approval/acknowledgement from the Swan River Trust been obtained? Yes N/A
- Over navigable waters
- has acknowledgement from the Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Marine Safety Branch) been obtained? Yes N/A
- Within 1 km of the coast
- has the local Volunteer Marine Rescue been notified? Yes N/A
- Within 500m of a health care facility, a place of public assembly, horse racing facility or an animal shelter
- have these establishments been notified? Yes N/A
- On the roof of a building
- has a fire safety audit been completed and approved by FESA? Yes N/A

Copies of all additional acknowledgements required must be produced on request.

8. Fireworks contractor declaration

I certify that the details contained in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, the fireworks event will fully comply with all relevant requirements of the Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007, Western Australian outdoor fireworks - Code of Practice or an approved equivalent and the fireworks operator has the appropriate licence.

Name of person signing (please print)	<input style="width: 98%;" type="text"/>
Signature of applicant	<input style="width: 98%;" type="text"/>
Date signed <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> / <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> / <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15%;" type="text"/>	



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Mines and Petroleum**
Resources Safety

ABN: 69 410 335 350

100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004
Tel: (08) 9358 8001 Fax: (08) 9358 8000
www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ResourcesSafety

Fireworks Event Notice

(Only for outdoor public fireworks displays)

This notice is a pre-requisite for a fireworks event permit. The fireworks contractor must complete sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 and the original, or a copy, is then to be lodged with the following authorities:

- WA Police
- FESA
- Local Government Authority
- Airport Manager (if applicable)

It is the responsibility of the abovementioned agencies to indicate their agreement or otherwise to this display and representatives are to complete their relevant section and **return the signed notices to the fireworks contractor.**

The fireworks contractor must attach the fireworks event notices to the application for a fireworks event permit.

Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004

Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007

Application no. *(office use only)*

EFD

1. Event details

Event start date	Start time (am/pm)	Finish date	Finish time (am/pm)

(attach a separate sheet if space above is insufficient)

Purpose of event

Location and address

Event organiser

(Person or organisation that is funding the event)

Is the event within 5 kms of an airport? Yes No

2. Licensed fireworks contractor details

Name

Licence number EFC

Phone

Facsimile

Email

Mobile

Postal address

Unit no. Street no. Lot no. Street

PO box no. Town/suburb State Postcode

3. Approvals and Acknowledgements

Fire services (Local Government Chief Bush Fire Control or FESA Fire Services Manager)

Are there any objections to this event? Yes No

If 'yes', briefly state objections or conditions

Name Signature

Position Authority location

Phone Date signed / /

For a complete list of FESA conditions, refer to the fireworks event application form on Resources Safety website - www.docep.wa.gov.au

Local government authority

Are there any objections to this event? Yes No

If 'yes', briefly state objections or conditions

Name Signature

Position Authority location

Phone Date signed / /

CEO Out of preferred hours - acknowledgement

NOTE: For events outside Sunday - Thursday 8.00am - 9.00pm or Friday - Saturday 8.00am - 10.00pm, the local government authority Chief Executive Officer or a representative with delegated authority to endorse fireworks events must personally complete and sign the following section.

I as Chief Executive Officer or authorised delegate of the acknowledge that this event is outside the preferred hours to conduct fireworks events.

Signature Date signed / /

Airport manager (Only required if proposed event will be within 5km of an airport boundary)

Are there any objections to this event? Yes No

If 'yes', briefly state objections or conditions

Name Signature

Airport location

Phone Date signed / /

Police (Complete and sign as acknowledgement of notification for this fireworks event)

Name Signature

Position Authority location

Phone Date signed / /

4. Public liability insurance

Name of insurer

Policy no.

Amount of cover

Expiry date / /

5. Fireworks contractor declaration

I certify that the details contained in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, the fireworks event will fully comply with all relevant requirements of the Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007, Western Australian outdoor fireworks - Code of Practice, Australian Standard AS 2187.4-1998 or an approved equivalent and the fireworks operator has a current licence.

Name of person signing (please print)

Signature of contractor

Date signed / /