

Fireworks in Clark County

Clark County Council Work Session

Presented by Community Development

October 1, 2025



AGENDA

- RCW Title 70 and CCC Title 5
- Firework Call Center reported fires
- Call Volume
- Noise Complaints
- 2025 data from fire districts and agencies
- Conclusion



Firework Law RCW Title 70

Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Title 70 Chapter 70.77.250 (4) :

“The chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, shall adopt those rules as are necessary to ensure statewide minimum standards for the enforcement of this chapter. Counties and cities shall comply with these state rules. Any ordinances adopted by a county or city that are more restrictive than state law **shall have an effective date no sooner than one year after their adoption.**”



Title 5 Legal Discharge Times

Firework sales are regulated by Clark County Code Title 5 Chapter 5.28



Fireworks Legal Discharge Times

Rev 6.3.22

	June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4	July 5	Dec. 31
Unincorporated Clark County							9 am to midnight		6 pm to 1 am
Amboy							9 am to midnight		6 pm to 1 am
Battle Ground						9 am to 11 pm	9 am to midnight		6 pm to 1 am
Camas							9 am to midnight		6 pm to 1 am
La Center						9 am to 10pm	9 am to midnight		
Ridgefield							9 am to midnight		
Vancouver	It is illegal to use fireworks within Vancouver city limits.								
Washougal*							9 am to midnight		6 pm to 1 am
Woodland				9 am to 11 pm	9 am to 11 pm	9 am to 11 pm	9 am to midnight		6 pm to 1 am
Yacolt		9 am to midnight	9 am to midnight	9 am to midnight	9 am to midnight	9 am to midnight	9 am to midnight	9 am to 11 pm	6 pm to 1 am

*Safe and Sane fireworks only.



Fireworks Call Center: Fires

Fireworks Call Center data from July 3 -5, 2025:

Event Type	Event Subtype	CCFR	CWFD	ECFR	FD10	FD13	FD3	FD6	NCEMS	SKF	VFD	Total
OUTSIDE	GRASS / BRUSH FIRE	10	4		2		9	10	1		32	68
	UNKNOWN/INVESTIGATION	2	5			1	2	7	1		21	39
STRUCTURE AND VEHICLE FIRES	COMMERCIAL										1	1
	INVESTIGATION		1	1							3	5
	MULTIPLE RESIDENTIAL UNIT										4	4
	RESIDENTIAL		4	1			1				16	23
	COMMERCIAL		1									1
	PASSENGER										1	6
	FIRE TOTALS	12	15	2	2	1	12	17	2		78	147

It's impossible for us to know how many fires were the direct result of fireworks but it's safe to assume most of them were.



Understanding Call Volume

Any given fire event usually involves more than a single caller. CRESA is unable to accurately capture those figures. Each fire event generally results in 10-30 calls per incident – usually all within a 30-60 seconds.





Call volume: Firework Call Center & 911

2025 Fireworks Call Numbers

Fireworks Call Center – 1,079

9-1-1 Calls for the Day – 2,272

2024 Fireworks Call Numbers

Fireworks Call Center – 1,013

9-1-1 Calls for the Day - 848

Total Calls for July 3 – July 5, 2024 - 1861

2023 Fireworks Call Numbers

Fireworks Call Center – 1,492

2022 Fireworks Call Numbers

Fireworks Call Center - 451

9-1-1 Calls for the Day - 1747

Total Calls for July 4, 2022 - 2198



Firework Noise Complaints

Calls to the Firework Call Center from July 3-5 for firework specific noise complaints:

Firework Noise Complaints	2023	2024	2025
Camas Police Department	10	28	5
Washougal Police Department	39	21	12
Vancouver Police Department	143	105	29
Clark County Sheriff's Office	62	35	14
Battleground Police Department	23	1	5
Ridgefield Police Department	21	8	1

- ❑ Noise complaints are escalated to police departments
- ❑ These numbers only include calls that require escalation due to urgent circumstances that needed to be addressed immediately or were for police agencies who opted out of using our Fireworks Call Center reporting tool to monitor those complaints



Firework Noise Complaints continued

Calls to the Fireworks Hotline from July 3-5, 2025, including Reckless Endangerment event type:

Event Type	Event Subtype	BGPD	CCSO	CPD	LCPD	RPD	VPD	WPD	Total
NOISE COMPLAINT	FIREWORKS	5	14	5	2	1	29	12	68
RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT	IN PROGRESS	3	8	1			3	1	16
	JUST OCCURRED	4	5			1	5	1	16
	POLICE TOTALS	12	27	6	2	2	37	14	100

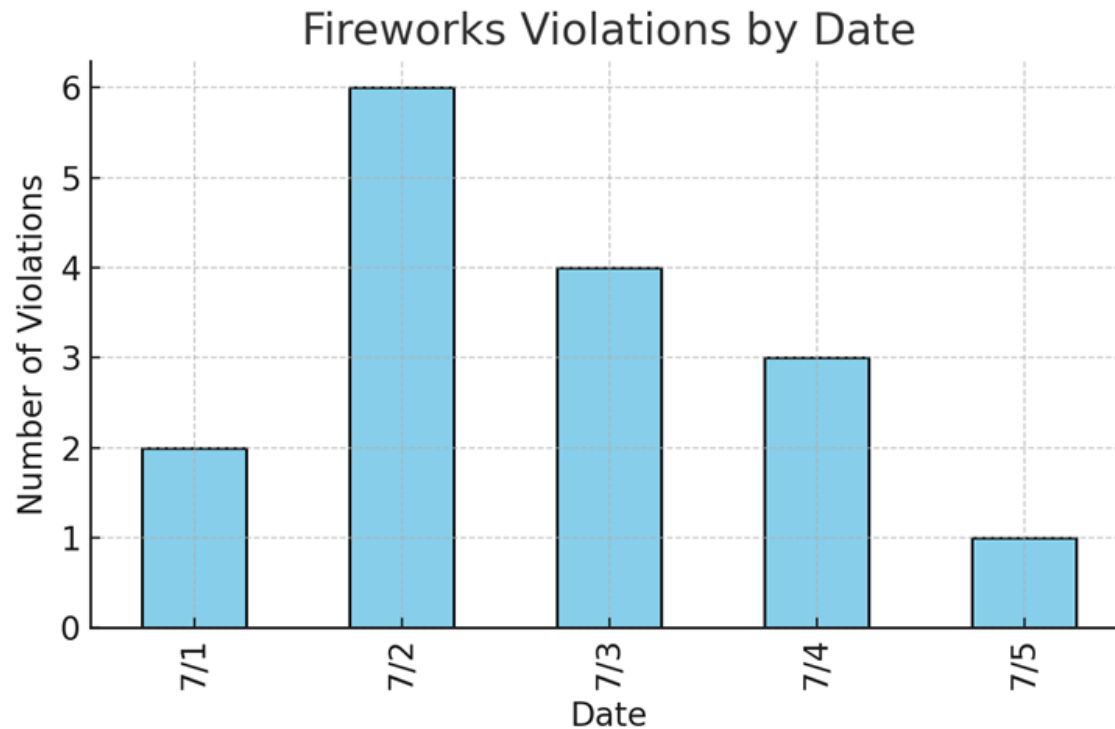


2025 Firework Data

The following information pertains to specific districts/stakeholders who provided information to Clark County Fire Marshal's Office for the purpose of this work session.



Clark County Fire District 3



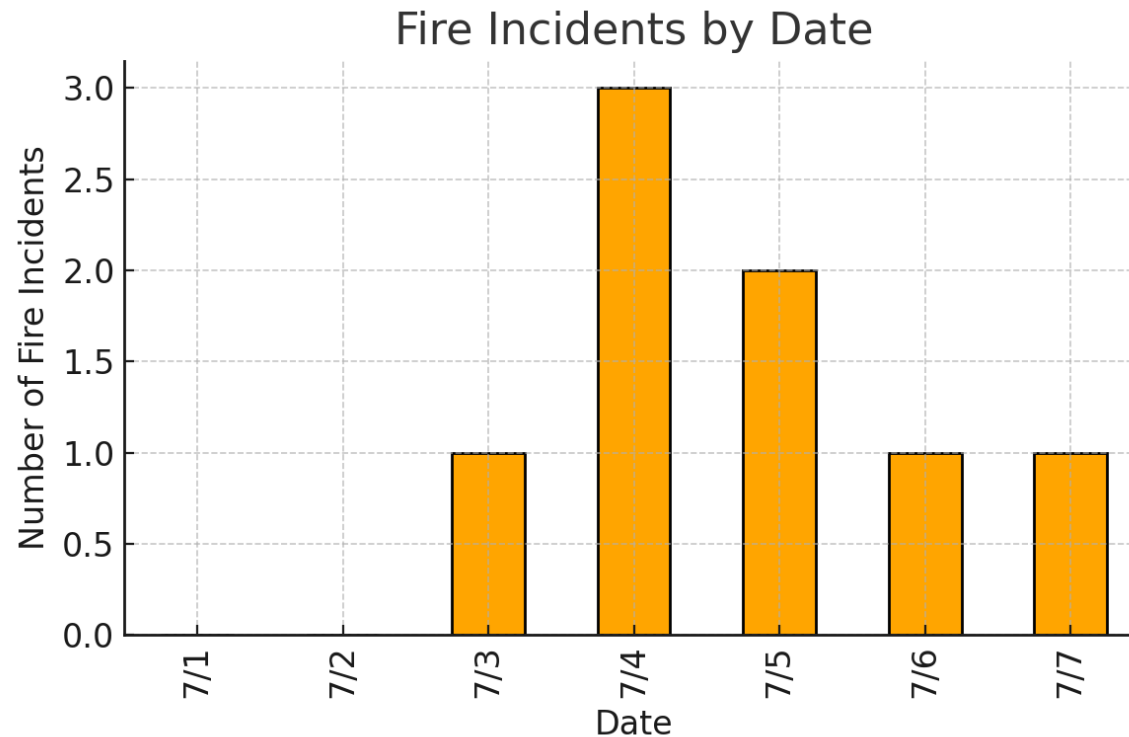
A total of 16 fireworks violations were documented:

- 12 warnings issued
- 3 incidents with no responsible party found
- 1 citation for reckless endangerment

Most violations involved discharge outside legal hours or reckless use of fireworks. No use of illegal fireworks was directly observed.



Clark County Fire District 3 continued



Fire District 3 responded to (9) fire-related incidents from July 1 through July 7. Of these, (8) were in the city limits of Battle Ground.

- 8 fire calls
- 1 explosion
- No injuries reported
- 62,040 sq. ft. burned (1.42 acres)
- Estimated property damage: \$200 (burned fence)
- No structure fires reported.

See FD3 Firework handout for further details





Clark County Fire District 6

Total fire related calls responded to between July 3-5, 2025:

Grass/Brush Fire: 27

Medical: 0

Structure Fire: 1





Clark County Fire District 10

No fireworks related incidents in FD10.



East County Fire and Rescue

East County Fire and Rescue had one confirmed firework related fire on August 10. It was a field/grass fire caused by roman candles.



Camas-Washougal Fire Department

Date	City	Type	Prop Loss	Injury
7/4	C	Structure/Garage	unknown	burns to hand/wrist
7/4	W	Debris	\$0	
7/4	W	Vegetation	\$0	
7/4	W	Vegetation	\$5,000	
7/5	C	Car Fire	\$5,000	
8/18	C	Vegetation	\$0	smoke inhalation

See CWFD handout for further details



Vancouver Fire Department

Fireworks Incident Data June 28 - July 5	2023	2024	2025
Call Volume	943	1003	1011
Average Daily Call Volume (first 6 months)	105	102	111
28-Jun	112	99	123
29-Jun	110	106	123
30-Jun	117	103	139
1-Jul	90	111	134
2-Jul	88	138	105
3-Jul	119	123	119
4-Jul	163	150	140
5-Jul	144	173	128
Fire Calls	33	19	27
Injuries	2	0	1*
Estimated Loss	\$30,900	\$13,000	\$501

See VFD Firework handout for further details



Clark County Fire Marshal's Office

Clark County Fire Marshal's Office reported the following for firework complaint inquiries and firework related investigation inquiries from June 28 to July 5.

FMO work	emails	calls	Fires due to fireworks	investigations
2025	15	7	3*	3*
2024	15	14	4	4

*Two (2) additional fires were started by Fireworks on July 30.



Council Options

Next Steps and Conclusion



Thank you!

Comments and questions

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