

FD3 – 2025 Fireworks Activity Report

Background

Clark County Fire District 3 remains committed to ensuring the safety of our community, especially during high-risk activities such as the use of fireworks during Independence Day celebrations. This report provides a detailed summary of the fire district's activities, enforcement actions, and emergency responses during the 2025 fireworks season. It reflects our ongoing dedication to code enforcement, education, and community partnerships.

Through proactive staffing, patrols, and collaboration with the City of Battle Ground Police Department, we worked to minimize risks, educate the public, and respond effectively to incidents. Our goal is to balance community traditions with public safety, ensuring that events are enjoyable and safe for all residents.

Fireworks Sales and Stand Operations

Five fireworks stands were permitted and operated within the City of Battle Ground:

- Knights of Columbus – 2108 W Main St
- Word of Grace Church – 401 NW 12th Ave
- Friends of Battle Ground Young Life – 1201 SW 13th Ave
- BGHS Tigers Basketball Boosters – 1801 SE 9th St
- BG Four Square Church – 805 W Main St

Sales were allowed from 9:00 AM on July 1 through 11:00 PM on July 4.

All stands were inspected and found to be in full compliance with applicable City and State codes, including Battle Ground Municipal Code (BGMC) Sections 8.30.020, 8.30.025, and 8.30.030.

Special Event Coverage

A public fireworks display was held by Maddox Industrial Transformers (MIT) on July 3 at Battle Ground Village.

Highlights:

- Fire District resources were on scene from 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM and included:
 - (2) additional firefighters
 - (1) Engine
 - (1) UTV
 - (1) Fire Inspector
- 25-minute permitted public display began at 10:00 PM.
- Minor grass fires were extinguished with water cans.
- Over 900 children's helmets were distributed.
- MIT to reimburse the district for overtime and merchandise costs.

Enhanced Staffing

Staffing was increased for the fireworks holiday period:

- July 3: (2) additional firefighters at Station 34.
- July 4: (2) additional firefighters at Station 34.

Fireworks Patrol Operations

Fireworks patrols were conducted by Fire Marshals and Chief 33:

Fire Marshal Fireworks Patrol Schedule		
Date	Time	Staff
7/1/2025	2000-2300	FM31, FM32
7/2/2025	2000-2300	FM31, FM32
7/3/2025	2000-2400	FM31, FM32
7/4/2025	2000-0100	FM31, FM32, C33

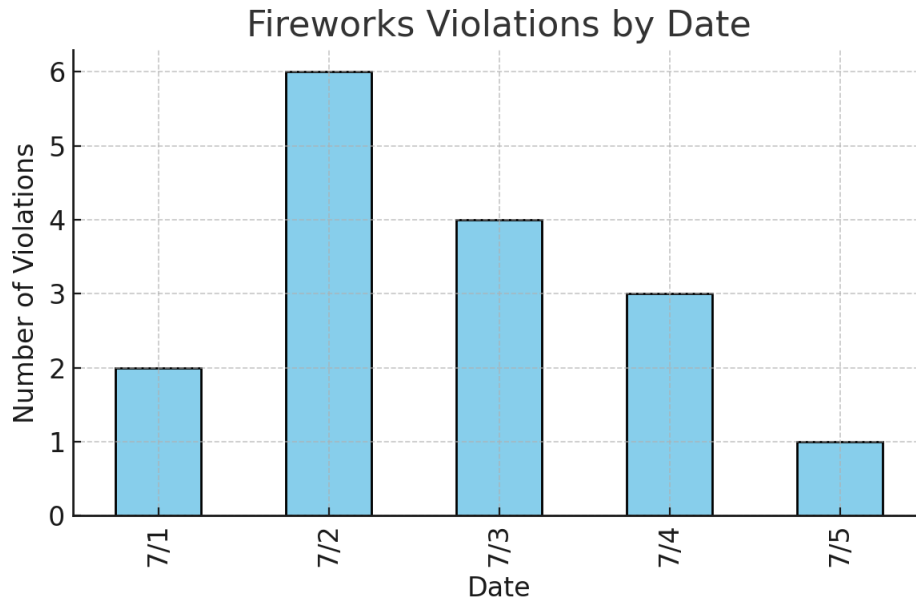
Battle Ground Police Department (BGPD) also responded to fireworks-related calls. An additional police presence would have been helpful on July 4.

Fireworks Enforcement Activity

A total of 16 fireworks violations were documented:

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

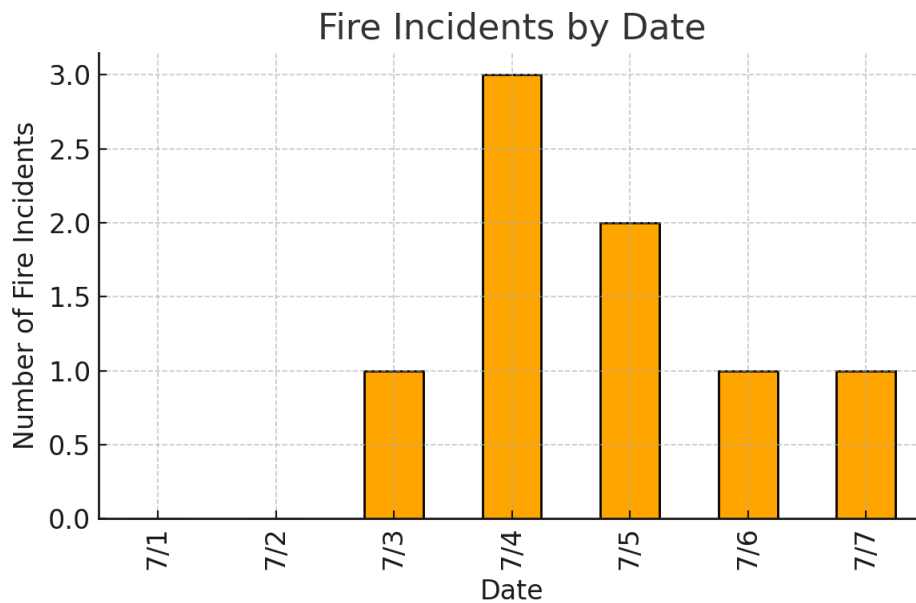
Most violations involved discharge outside legal hours or reckless use of fireworks. No use of illegal fireworks was directly observed.



Fireworks-Related Fire Responses

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.



Lessons Learned

As with every fireworks season, reviewing operations and community responses allows us to improve future efforts. The following items were identified as key considerations to enhance safety, coordination, and public awareness in the coming years:

- Vegetation Mitigation: There is a clear need to ensure that grass and brush are adequately maintained at high-risk locations, specifically at the Old Cedars Golf Course, which is owned by the County. Particular attention should be given to areas adjacent to residential properties.
- Police Staffing: Consideration should be given to increasing the police presence on July 4th. This could include assigning dedicated Battle Ground Police Department (BGPD) personnel to handle fireworks-related calls. A joint patrol model—potentially pairing BGPD officers with Fire District staff in the same vehicle—may improve response safety, efficiency and community visibility.
- Public Education and Signage: Opportunities exist to enhance public education efforts regarding fireworks regulations. This could include increased communications leading up to the holiday and temporary signage placed at city parks clearly stating that fireworks are prohibited in those locations.

Summary

The 2025 fireworks season showcased the effectiveness of our collaborative approach to community safety. Through strategic staffing, diligent code enforcement, and strong partnerships with the City of Battle Ground and other agencies, we successfully minimized major incidents while fostering positive community engagement.

We remain committed to protecting lives and property through continued education, enforcement of fireworks regulations, and proactive community outreach. We appreciate the ongoing support of the City of Battle Ground and look forward to further strengthening our partnerships to ensure safe celebrations in the years ahead.