



## LEETSDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### Reminder About Fireworks in Leetsdale

The Leetsdale Police Department would like to remind residents of a few facts about the Pennsylvania's Fireworks law. Consumers can now purchase and use "Class C" or "consumer-grade" fireworks that include firecrackers, Roman candles, bottle rockets, and similar fireworks that contain a maximum of 50 milligrams of explosive material. The expansion includes those fireworks that were previously only available to out-of-state residents. "Display fireworks," which are classified as including salutes that contain more than two grains or 130 milligrams of explosive materials, and professional-grade aerial shells containing more than 60 grams of pyrotechnic compositions, are still only to be used by professionals with a permit from the municipality where the display will take place.

There are several restrictions on the use of consumer fireworks:

- They cannot be ignited or discharged on a public or private property without express permission of the property owner.
- They cannot be discharged from or within a motor vehicle or building.
- They cannot be discharged toward a motor vehicle or building.
- They cannot be discharged within 150 feet of an occupied structure, whether or not a person is actually present. **(Most occupied structures in Leetsdale are within 150 feet of each other)**
- They cannot be discharged while the person is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or another drug.

Penalties for violating the fireworks law are the following:

1. A person using consumer fireworks in violation of the provisions of this article commits a summary offense and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.
2. A person selling consumer fireworks in violation of the provisions of this act commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.
3. A person selling display fireworks in violation of the provisions of this act commits a felony of the third degree.
4. A person selling federally illegal explosives such as devices as described in 49 CFR 173.54 (relating to forbidden explosives) or those devices that have not been tested, approved and labeled by the United States Department of Transportation, including, but not limited to, those devices commonly referred to as M-80, M-100, blockbuster, cherry bomb or quarter or half stick explosive devices, in violation of the provisions of this act commits a felony of the third degree.