Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Fireworks Policy
Amended by the Panton Selectboard May 13th, 2026

Authority
Per 24 V.S.A. § 1971 (a) A municipality may adopt, amend, repeal, and enforce ordinances or rules for any purposes authorized by law.

Purpose
To ensure the safety of Panton residents, visitors, and personal property within the Town, the Selectboard of the Town of Panton requires any party wishing to display fireworks to apply for and be granted a fireworks display permit.

Applicability
This policy applies to all fireworks displays conducted within the geographic limits of the Town of Panton.

Definitions
20 V.S.A. § 3131:

As used in this subchapter, the term "fireworks" means any combustible or explosive composition, or any substance or combination of substances, or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration, or detonation, including blank cartridges, toy pistols, toy cannons, toy canes, or toy guns in which explosives are used, balloons that are propelled by explosives, firecrackers, torpedoes, sky rockets, Roman candles, cherry bombs, or other fireworks of like construction and any fireworks containing any explosive or flammable compound, or any tablets or other device containing any explosive substance, except sparklers. The term "fireworks" does not include toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns, or other devices in which paper caps containing 0.25 grains or less of explosive compound are used, providing they are so constructed that the hand cannot come in contact with the cap when in place for use, and toy pistol paper caps that contain less than 0.2 grains of explosive mixture. The term "fireworks" does not include fixed ammunition for firearms or primers for firearms. The

term "sparkler" means a sparkling item that complies with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission regulations and is one of the following:
(1) A hand-held wire or wood sparkler that is less than 14 inches and has no more than 20 grams of pyrotechnic mixture.

(2) A snake, party popper, glow worm, smoke device, string popper, snapper, or drop pop with no more than 0.25 grains of explosive mixture. (Amended 2003, No. 15, § 1, eff. May 6, 2003; 2021, No. 20, § 188.)

Procedure
Anyone wishing to conduct a fireworks display in the Town of Panton shall submit a completed Fireworks Display Permit Application to the Town no less than 15 business days from the date of the proposed display.

The Town will forward applications to the Vergennes Fire Department (VFD) for review. The VFD may, at their discretion, conduct a site visit and request any other information from the applicant deemed necessary to make a permit determination.

If a permit is granted, the permittee shall:

- Make a good faith effort to inform neighbors of the date and time of the display at least 48 hours in advance of the display.

- Ensure that debris from the display is picked up and disposed of properly.

Adopted by the Selectboard on May 13th, 2026.

Zach Weaver, Chair

Teresa Boucher, Vice Chair

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Robert DeGraaf

Kirsten De La Cruz