

# Fireworks

New Laws Governing the Sale possession and use of fireworks

A fireworks curfew for the use of 'adult fireworks' with penalties up to a £5,000 fine and six months' jail came into effect on Saturday 7 August 2004

The ban on fireworks between 2300 and 0700 is part of a range of measures introduced by the government to clamp down on anti-social behaviour, as detailed in the Fireworks Regulations 2004. A link to the HMSO Firework Regulations 2004 can be found on the main Reducing Noise Webpage.

Exceptions have been made to the ban for major events such as New Year's Eve, November 5 th. Chinese New Year, and Diwali (Hindu festival)

- The measures also make it illegal for anyone under 18 to carry fireworks in public places
- Shops cannot sell fireworks louder than 120 decibels under the new laws
- New Year displays, Chinese New Year, and the Diwali Celebrations will be allowed to continue until 0100, but Bonfire Night fireworks must finish by midnight.

**Note:** In all cases the Regulations make it clear that it is the police who are responsible for the enforcement of the regulations which apply to possession and enforcement.

Licences required for the sale of fireworks are now issued by the local Fire Authority (not Essex County Council Trading Standards)