

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Citizens Reminded that the Sale and Explosion of Fireworks is Prohibited

Maple Ridge, BC: Like most communities in Metro Vancouver, the City of Maple Ridge prohibits the sale or explosion of fireworks and firecrackers without a valid permit. In addition to the risk of personal injury and fires, the random explosion of fireworks has an impact on your neighbours, their pets and wildlife.

“In 2013, the Maple Ridge Fire Department attended a house fire that started when a group of teens exploded fireworks in the backyard of the home. The fire subsequently spread to another home and both were destroyed. Uncontrolled fireworks have the potential to cause significant property damage and personal injury,” said Fire Chief Michael Van Dop. “The goal is to be a good neighbour and avoid unnecessary risk to personal safety and protect our homes and environment.”

In the weeks leading up to Halloween, the RCMP, Fire and Bylaws Departments will be out in the community to address the explosion of illegal fireworks and firecrackers. Fines range from \$500 to \$1,000 for violations of Maple Ridge’s [Fireworks Bylaw](#).

Every year, the City works with community partners, a professional fireworks company and the Fire Department to host a popular fireworks celebration. This year’s event, [Celebrate the Night](#), is Friday, October 22 at Memorial Peace Park. Starting at 6:00 pm with music and light displays, the event culminates with a controlled fireworks show at 8:00 pm, fired from atop the ACT Arts Centre.

This safe, family-friendly event provides residents in the downtown core advance notice to prepare their pets for the 15-minute display and encourages the community to enjoy a safe, professional quality event.

For information on how to keep pets safe over Halloween, visit the BC SPCA’s [resources](#) webpage.