



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

POLICY & PROCEDURE

FIRE WORKS REQUIREMENTS

BELL POND

I PURPOSE

To outline the criteria and procedures for use of Bell Pond for the shooting of fireworks in the City of Worcester under management and control of the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.

II POLICY

1. This policy shall cover Bell Pond under the jurisdiction of the City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.
2. The use of fireworks requires a set policy approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission.
3. The use of fireworks within public parks also requires approval from the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service.
4. Permits for use of Bell Pond must be requested from the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division. This application must be submitted, reviewed and approved by the Department a minimum of three months before the event is to take place.
5. The Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division shall determine if size, fee structure or use of facility requires submission of said event to the Parks & Recreation Commission. The applicant shall be responsible to attend said Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to address any and all concerns of the Department and Commission (if required).

6. The Parks & Recreation Commission and the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division shall recommend modifications for the event based on public comment, the requirements of the Worcester Fire Department, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service. These modifications shall be included in the final permit.

III PROCEDURE

- 1) All fireworks events shall follow all of the Rules & Regulations of the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division as stated within the Permit Application.
- 2) All fireworks events shall follow all of the Rules & Regulations of the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service.
- 3) All fireworks events shall complete any and all required permits of the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service. These approved permits must be submitted to the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division before final approval is granted.
- 4) All costs (labor, materials & services) required by the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division, the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service are the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or fireworks company.
- 5) All fireworks events will be required to adhere to the attached Approval of Natural Barriers as received by the City of Worcester after an inspection by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Department of Fire Service on June 5, 2015. This letter may be updated in the future by the Worcester Fire Department and/or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service as necessary. Any and all updated requirements are the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company.
- 6) All fireworks events will be required to secure all areas identified on the attached map and as required by the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service. The cost of this requirement will be the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company.

- 7) Applicants shall complete as required by the Department all necessary sections of said permit.
- 8) The Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks; Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division will provide no guarantee of event approval until all necessary paper work (as required by the Department) is completed and approved.
- 9) The Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division reserves the right to require changes & additional submissions for any event and as required by the Department, Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service.
- 10) The Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division will provide no guarantee of access to Bell Hill in inclement weather or after severe storms. This includes rain, wind, ice, snow or other conditions outside of the direct control of the Department. The Department will address the needs of the event as best as possible but final responsibility for insuring access will be the duty of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company.
- 11) Applicants must understand that access to the top of Bell Hill is on an unimproved drive (dirt roadway), that has a substantial grade, that is accessible for large equipment and is located through a ten foot opening on Belmont Street. This roadway is not maintained regularly and all vehicular access to the site must use four wheel drive equipment. Access by rear wheel drive or front wheel drive vehicles is not advisable and may require tire chains or other equipment as necessary climb this roadway. It will be the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company to insure that vehicular access is available to the top of Bell Pond. It is suggested that requesting individuals, organizations, company and/or Fireworks Company's review the site before the event date.
- 12) The Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division shall ensure this policy is adhered to. It shall have final approval of all events.
- 13) All events shall be in compliance with the City's Human Rights Commission's Policy Statement (See Attached).
- 14) This policy/procedure may be amended by a majority vote of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Parks and Recreation Commission Approval Record

1. This policy was reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission on 11-19-15 and approved on 11-19-15, voted 4 - 0.
2. This policy was revised and reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission on 1-29-16 and approved on 1-28-16, voted 6-0.
3. This policy was reviewed, updated, and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission on January 19, 2023, with a vote of 5-0.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the city to assure that every individual shall have equal access to and benefit from all public services, to protect every individual in the enjoyment and exercise of civil rights and to encourage and bring about mutual understanding and respect among all individuals of the city. It is clear that behavior which denies equal treatment to any of our citizens as a result of their race, color, religious creed, status, sexual orientation, disability or source of income undermines civil order and deprives person of the benefits of a free and open society. Nothing in this ordinance shall be constructed as supporting or advocating any particular religious view or lifestyle. To the contrary, it is the intention of this ordinance that all persons be treated fairly and equally and it is the expressed intent of this ordinance to bring about the elimination of prejudice, intolerance, bigotry, discrimination and the disorder occasioned thereby.

