[Amy Fleming](https://nextdoor.com/profile/23366139/)

, Alabama Hill

**[Bombs](https://nextdoor.com/news_feed/?post=99747019)**

To all of you who started setting off illegal fireworks and actual bombs in the city of Bellingham, starting at about 8 p.m. this evening, thanks so much. Thanks for terrorizing my dog, who is so terrified he couldn't even go to the bathroom when I tried to take him out at 8 p.m., is still shaking despite being given a tranquilizer. and will continue to be terrified for hours. Even though these fireworks and bombs (mortars?) are illegal, I have learned to expect them around midnight on New Year's Eve, and try to get my dog out early and get him tranquilized in anticipation. But tonight, I don't know what is going on. I guess this year you couldn't even wait until midnight to start your selfish, mean, illegal activity. Some of you defend your conduct on July 4th by claiming to be patriotic. What's your excuse today for terrorizing pets, wildlife, and many people who have difficulty tolerating this pointless, mindless noise, all so you can enjoy making things go boom?

Edited 3d ago · 24 neighborhoods in [Crime & Safety](https://nextdoor.com/crime_and_safety/)

Reply



[Damian Kirby](https://nextdoor.com/profile/27813752/)

, Whatcom Falls·3d ago

As much as it sucks at least it’s not everyday?



[Damian Kirby](https://nextdoor.com/profile/27813752/)

, Whatcom Falls·3d ago

Which leads me to wonder.. Are the people who walk through the falls with their dogs off leash the same folks that don’t poop scoop and light off fireworks? Or is it the other way around?



[Anneke Palmerton](https://nextdoor.com/profile/519694/)

, Geneva·3d ago

We have an infant... turned the sound machine on and up a bit to keep him asleep.



[Jill Komoto](https://nextdoor.com/profile/5178095/)

, Alabama Hill·3d ago

Here at my house I’ve heard booms from 6pm on. I just yelled out the window and told them I was calling the cops. The booms outside my windows stopped. I’m worried my 12 year old dog will have a heart attack.



[Steve Jiang](https://nextdoor.com/profile/33917315/)

, Whatcom Falls·3d ago

Looks like the dog can use some therapy



[Lynne Henderson](https://nextdoor.com/profile/932835/)

, Toad Lake·3d ago

Animals normally don't understand war zones!



[Amy Fleming](https://nextdoor.com/profile/23366139/)

, Alabama Hill·2d ago

From an article I read this a.m. about a "noise-canceling kennel" prototype being developed: "For years, veterinarians have urged people to find quiet space for their pets because holiday fireworks can terrify the animals. They run away, get hit by cars, develop anxiety and stress that can lead to injury and self harm. Dogs have an acute sense of hearing that is far superior to humans, so loud noises can be especially painful and upsetting." And yeah, Damian, these ARE the same people that don't obey leash laws or pick up their own dog's poop, and the same ones who drive aggressively or impaired and throw their beer bottles out the window, because they only care about themselves.



[Michael Berres](https://nextdoor.com/profile/20073109/)

, Silver Beach·2d ago

Add one more person who hates the fireworks and the idiots who set them off.....



[Heather Thompson](https://nextdoor.com/profile/20090503/)

, Alabama Hill·2d ago

😂



[Marlies Lange](https://nextdoor.com/profile/24908888/)

, North Hills·2d ago

You are so right!!! I wish too we could stop this once and for all. Here is what we did this year to help our dog. We got a tranquelizer from our vet. It helped. a lot.



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·2d ago

I defend their right to enjoy the fourth with fireworks but I do not defend their right to be drunk and stupid at 3AM. Limit the time to midnight and fry the offenders that don’t… [See more](https://nextdoor.com/news_feed/)



[Lane Weaver](https://nextdoor.com/profile/19807324/)

, Roosevelt·2d ago

CDB’s



[Erika Anderson](https://nextdoor.com/profile/7446989/)

, Woodlake·2d ago

I’m curious—are there any veterans who have served in conflict areas who like to set off fireworks? Because it would seem to me that the noise would remind them of things they would rather forget, and could be very stressful and traumatic. Fireworks represent bombs, shelling, pain and death—do we really want to celebrate war and destruction? Maybe we ought to ship all of these big “boys” (and “girls”) off to the military, where they could at least help the country while they’re destroying things.



[Marilee Rhoden](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4771066/)

, Barkley·2d ago

Our dogs were terrorized too.



[Jan Henry](https://nextdoor.com/profile/6216112/)

, Roosevelt·2d ago

Erika, I know a lot of Veterans and I can tell you for a fact that none of them that I know can handle the loud noises from fireworks. It's sad that they have to hide inside, close the blinds, increase the volume on their tv, because insensitive people dont know when to quit. It isn't just the Veterans who dont handle it well. The seniors, especially those with dementia do not understand at all. My mom would sit in her chair and cry and I had doors and windows closed and tv volume up. As far as the pets go... Steve Jiang, seriously?? You're probably not a pet owner but if you are I hope your pet never becomes so frightened by the loud booms that it escapes and is injured being hit by a car. It's the excessive all night illegal crap that people are fed up with. Especially when they have to work the next day.



[David Mccluskey](https://nextdoor.com/profile/5839871/)

, Roosevelt·2d ago

Hmm. I didn't hear a thing. My 3 dogs didn't either. I thought for sure I would hear a bomb go off. I'm guessing a little exaggeration



[Jennifer Cartwright](https://nextdoor.com/profile/33710491/)

, Squalicum Ridge·2d ago

We agree whole heartedly with the excessive firecrackers in this area. We also have a dog terrified of the sounds and i also thought walking at 8 pm was going to be fine... but it wasn't. When I see how traumatized the animals are, I just can't appreciate anything about things that loud, being good.



[Cherie Vance](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15079189/)

, Alabama Hill·2d ago

NO exaggeration, David M.! It sounded like it went off 2 houses over from me...loudest that I've ever heard...here on Crestline!!! My dogs were traumatized too.



[David Mccluskey](https://nextdoor.com/profile/5839871/)

, Roosevelt·2d ago

Bomb?



[Cherie Vance](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15079189/)

, Alabama Hill·2d ago

My next door neighbors sounded like BOMBS! Sounded like they were setting them off INSIDE of my house!



[Janice Shepherd](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15266140/)

, Alabama Hill·2d ago

Yes, I had the same experience. Loud boom snd my bedroom lit up like my house was on fire. About a half dozen of them right outside my bedroom window.



[Sanford Ohren](https://nextdoor.com/profile/8747781/)

, Silver Beach·2d ago

Yeah... Loud, obnoxious, and totally illegal. So, who was cited? Who was arrested? Why not? Those are the questions that need answers!



[Karen FitzGerald](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15619822/)

, Alabama Hill·2d ago

Glad I and my dog were away on peaceful Orcas Island and missed all this. There are plenty of ways to ring in the new year that don't disturb others. We tossed salt over our shoulders at midnight. Or how about a nice party with friends? Sip some bubbly? Cheer?



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·2d ago

I know a lot of veterans also. every single one that I know enjoy the fireworks. Every single one.



[Rick Wright](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15566900/)

, Geneva·2d ago

Just an excuse for people to annoy their neighbors!



[Lane Weaver](https://nextdoor.com/profile/19807324/)

, Roosevelt·2d ago

All these terrible experiences and I don’t see that one person called the cops ?



[Sally Soffa](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15180700/)

, Silver Beach·2d ago

I'm glad I was away, as my dog would also have been terrified.



[Susan Rosenau](https://nextdoor.com/profile/9982760/)

, Barkley·2d ago

I hate the fireworks too, and they freak out my dogs. However, there is something you can do to prepare. I have both Trazodone and Sileo from my vet, and if you give them in advance of the fireworks they help a great deal. The fireworks in our neighborhood were not so terrible this year, but normally any fireworks would terrify my dog - but he just lifted his head briefly and settled back down because of the meds. I was so relieved that he was okay. I am not from here originally and this idea of fireworks on NYE is new to me.



[David Mccluskey](https://nextdoor.com/profile/5839871/)

, Roosevelt·1d ago

Allen, the vets I know love fireworks too. ..just another ban this because ...lefty tactic



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·1d ago

David, I know a vet who loves fireworks but has an abreaction attributable to PTSD whenever he sees a Japanese person. Should we have him get a restraining order against all Japanese or learn to deal with his problem?



[Cherie Vance](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15079189/)

, Alabama Hill·1d ago

My brother was a vet in Desert Storm on 'The Highway to Hell", and picked up remains of buddies taken from a SCUD attack. He HATED loud noises...so NOT all vets love fireworks. He had a horrible reaction to them...and although, he got counseling and tried to "learn to deal with 'his' problem (one we should care about and share), he still had an involuntary negative reaction to them. They are ILLEGAL...what part of that don't you understand?



[Mike Maghakian](https://nextdoor.com/profile/904499/)

, Barkley·1d ago

I wonder if cherry bombs were involved, they are illegal <https://www.americanpyro.com/banned-illegal-explosives>



[Steve Jiang](https://nextdoor.com/profile/33917315/)

, Whatcom Falls·1d ago

What about just plug the dogs ears?



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·1d ago

Again... My friend has a bad reaction to Japanese. Should we make them illegal also? Designate a reasonable time during which to celebrate and real enforce the law against those that don't follow the guideline. I believe that they are permitted in the county between 6P and 1A on Jan 31.



[Karen FitzGerald](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15619822/)

, Alabama Hill·1d ago

Allen, I presume you know the answer to your question already, and are just asking it to get people's goat. But in case don't know, there is a huge difference between factors one is born with and cannot choose, such as ethnic heritage, and actions willfully taken that one knows are disturbing to others.



[Mike Maghakian](https://nextdoor.com/profile/904499/)

, Barkley·1d ago

this should answer peoples questions Bellingham: Illegal inside city limits at all times. Fines for violations start at… [See more](https://nextdoor.com/news_feed/)



[Mike Maghakian](https://nextdoor.com/profile/904499/)

, Barkley·1d ago

in case you have trouble with english all times means fireworks are NEVER legal AND (as copied from the above article) Explosives such as M-80s, tennis ball bombs and pipe bombs are illegal everywhere. Modifying legal fireworks also is a crime, as well as dangerous. A man trying to modify fireworks at a home north of Ferndale in 2011 severely injured himself when they detonated. Sky lanterns also have new regulations taking effect July 1. They are legal when lit only if they are tethered and under control at all times.



[Steve Jiang](https://nextdoor.com/profile/33917315/)

, Whatcom Falls·1d ago

Well, laws are created by humans, and as such, they are subject to change and evolution. Consider all the unenforced or decriminalized laws such as suicide or infidelity. Do you ever speed 5-8 miles per hour over the limit but not over 10 miles per hour when driving? Why? That's because you know that police usually ignore people who speed 5-8 miles per hour over the limit but not anything much higher than that. Therefore, it is rather foolish to argue dogmatically "it's illegal, therefore we can count on people to not be setting off fireworks". I certainly do not condone breaking the law, or that people engage in illegal activity. However, what I'm trying to say is that there is certainly enough of the population out there that feels that it is permissible to set off fireworks on certain holidays that the cops will not be enforcing such laws pertaining to these "illegal" activities on these special occasions with an iron fist. Therefore, as a responsible pet owner, YOU should take some responsibility into preparing for this day ahead of time so that the dog is not traumatized, instead of hoping the rest of the world will cater to your pet. In your original post, I only agree with the "illegal" (contingent on your citing of the relevant ordinance) but I don't believe people are willfully trying be "selfish", "mean", or trying to "terrorize" your pet. This holiday season, I had a package stolen from my front porch because I was not able to be home when the package was delivered. I did not sit around and throw a fit on how stealing packages is illegal. Instead, I got myself cameras and motion sensing lights to prevent this from happening again the future. Therefore, if you depend on others to change for you, then your poor dog will suffer the same fate next year again, guaranteed.



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·1d ago

Fireworks are in fact legal in the county in case you have trouble with English. They are legal in the city by permit. Duh!



[Mike Maghakian](https://nextdoor.com/profile/904499/)

, Barkley·1d ago

not sure if this is what you are referring to Allen These rules do not apply to professional shows or groups that have a permit for a fireworks show, such as the big Blaine and Bellingham shows on July 4.



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·1d ago

Karen: The HUGE difference that you mentioned is obvious. The point I was making is that if we are going to protect one group from exposure to a noxious stimulus, we then have an obligation to protect all instead of looking to people to adapt and cure the.mselves to the best that they can



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·1d ago

But you said that they are NEVER legal which is obviously not true. No permit required in the county.



[Mike Maghakian](https://nextdoor.com/profile/904499/)

, Barkley·1d ago

We are talking about local neighborhoods here in the city not the county and not Alaska



[Karen FitzGerald](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15619822/)

, Alabama Hill·1d ago

Allen: I don't agree with that. There are many subtleties and complexities when it comes to the law. It is clearly not possible to protect all people from all stimuli which may be noxious to them. And the rights and responsibilities of all sides need to be considered and balanced out. In addition to the rights of those who might be negatively impacted, we need to consider the rights of those causing the impact. I believe, as I presume you do also, that asking all people of Japanese descent to disappear is too big of a burden on them in order to prevent a few veterans from experiencing a PTSD episode. I would consider such a law to be morally indefensible. In this case, said veterans would need to find a way to adapt. On the other hand, I think some lawmakers would consider limiting the rights of people to set off loud and dangerous explosives to be a more reasonable burden to bear in order to protect many people and animals. That's why there are different laws in different areas. Lawmakers in different localities come to different conclusions about who should bear how much burden. Make sense?



[Jill Komoto](https://nextdoor.com/profile/5178095/)

, Alabama Hill·1d ago

Nothing helps for my dog, and believe me we've tried everything. None of the drugs work once the fireworks go off one after another. Does anyone know places where it is quiet on New Years and July 4th? It sounds like the San Juans for New Years...



[Allen Brown](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4658869/)

, Puget·1d ago

I thought the string was about noise. Is the noise different if it is two blocks over in the County? I would have been happy to protect my animals between 6and 1 as the law dictates. The law in place was not enforced either in the city or county. Just as the Vet will learn to adapt, the animal owner has that responsibility also But the citizen in the "compromise" seems to ignore the rules at 3 [AM.You](http://AM.You) want to limit the rights of all people because of the offenders.



[Carol Richards](https://nextdoor.com/profile/9403001/)

, Barkley·1d ago

This is supposed to be neighborly. Very few helpful comments but lots of time spent posting attitude. If you've got excess time on your hands, maybe do somting positive, like volunteer work? And moderator, where the heck are you??? This is not supposed to be a space for vitriol.



[Susan Rosenau](https://nextdoor.com/profile/9982760/)

, Barkley·1d ago

Oh FFS, David, do you have to make everything about politics? My dogs don't vote. When I lived in DC I enjoyed watching the fireworks on the Mall, they were professional and beautiful. We had a friend with a penthouse apartment and we would watch from the rooftop - we could see not only the fireworks from the National Mall, but others from different parts of the city and even outside the city. But firecrackers and M80s are just noisy, annoying and distressing to a significant number of people and animals. People setting them off frequently are injured as well. All while I was growing up I saw it happen, someone getting hurt, or people's homes getting damaged. IMO fireworks for non-professionals should be illegal everywhere. That's not a political opinion but a practical one.



[Kathy Hennessy](https://nextdoor.com/profile/4600876/)

, Alabama Hill·16h ago

@amy, I am sorry your dog experienced that. I would highly recommend you take him out of town July 4 and December 31. I've lived here long enough to know even a law banning fireworks doesn't stop. For your doggy's health, hit the high road. PS I hate the noise, too, and am lucky my pets and kids are not traumatized by it. I will say it was "super" (NOT) fun to have a newborn baby on July 4th one year.



[Michael Berres](https://nextdoor.com/profile/20073109/)

, Silver Beach·15h ago

Some great observations. For me, it isn't that any particular law or regulation would fix the problem. It's a matter of civility. Most--but not all--elderly people are upset by the fireworks. Most--but not all--babies and young children are scared by the fireworks. From 40+ years of working with at-risk youth, I know that large numbers of children can't handle the volume of unpredictable booms--just because some children say they like the booms should not be misinterpreted to assume that all kids like the barrage. Some--but not all--veterans who went through war experiences are upset....and in some case, re-traumatized--by the fireworks. Almost all dogs are frightened...and some significantly hurt. There are lots of studies about the damage to wildlife from constant fireworks. I can't begin to guess which adults are upset. And I'd guesstimate that a lot of teenagers--especially boys--probably are jazzed by blasting things off. If so many people and animals are upset, frightened, disrupted, and re-traumatized, why the need to set off fireworks? Why do folks--especially male teens--have to be mean to other residents? If there was something that I liked to do that caused some much fear and angst for others in the neighborhood, I just wouldn't do it. Is that too much to ask? As I said above, this is a matter of civility and growing up.



[Steve Jiang](https://nextdoor.com/profile/33917315/)

, Whatcom Falls·15h ago

On that point, the original post certainly lacked civility.



[Karen FitzGerald](https://nextdoor.com/profile/15619822/)

, Alabama Hill·11h ago

Michael Berres, I think you hit the nail on the head. Very well put.