

PERMIT AND PLAN SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FIREWORK, PYROTECHNIC AND FLAME EFFECT PRODUCTIONS

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COLORADO SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT Office of the Fire Marshal



If you have any questions or comments regarding the information contained within, or if you need assistance interpreting these requirements, please contact:

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PURPOSE

To provide permitting and plan submittal requirements for the use of fireworks, pyrotechnics, flame effects and other similar effect productions.

SCOPE

This document pertains to the approved use and required permitting of fireworks, proximate audience displays, flame effects and pyrotechnic special effects in motion picture, television, theatrical, and group entertainment productions as required by the City Code of Colorado Springs and the 2003 Colorado Springs Fire Code.

DEFINITIONS

Fireworks. Any composition or device for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect for entertainment purposes by combustion, deflagration or detonation that meets the definition of 1.4G fireworks or 1.3G fireworks as set forth herein.

Fireworks, 1.4G. (Formerly known as Class C, Common Fireworks.) Small fireworks devices containing restricted amounts of pyrotechnic composition designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion.

Fireworks, 1.3G. (Formerly Class B, Special Fireworks.) Large fireworks devices, which are explosive materials, intended for use in fireworks displays and designed to produce audible or visible effects by combustion, deflagration or detonation. Such 1.3G fireworks include, but are not limited to, firecrackers containing more than 130 milligrams (2 grains) of explosive composition, aerial shells containing more than 40 grams of pyrotechnic composition, and other display pieces which exceed the limits for classification as 1.4G fireworks. Such 1.3G fireworks, are also described as Fire-works, UN0335 by the DOTn.

Fireworks Display. A presentation of fireworks for a public or private gathering. (See also definitions in NFPA 1123 - *Code for Fireworks Display*)

Flame Effect. The combustion of flammable solids, liquids or gases to produce thermal, physical, visual or audible phenomena before an audience. (See also definitions in NFPA 160, *Standard on the Use of Flame Effects Before and Audience.*)

Pyrotechnic Special Effect. A visible or audible effect for entertainment created through the use of pyrotechnic materials and devices. (See also definitions in NFPA 1126 - *Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience.*)

GUIDELINES

I. Use of Fireworks

It is unlawful for any person to possess, store, to offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail or use or explode any fireworks except as allowed in City Code of Colorado Springs, Chapter 9, Article 7, Part 3.

Exceptions:

1. Storage and handling of fireworks as permitted in Section 3304 of the 2003 Colorado Springs Fire Code.
2. Manufacture, assembly and testing of fireworks as permitted in Section 3305 of the 2003 Colorado Springs Fire Code.
3. The use of fireworks for display as permitted in Section 3308 of the 2003 Colorado Springs Fire Code.
4. The possession, storage, sale, handling and use of specific types of Division 1.4G fireworks where allowed by applicable local or state laws, ordinances and regulations provided such fireworks comply with CPSC 16 CFR, Parts 1500 and 1507, and DOTn 49 CFR, Parts 100-178, for consumer fire-works.

II. Permitting and Fees

A provisional permit from the Office of the Fire Marshal is required prior to the use of any approved firework or pyrotechnic production per the 2003 Colorado Springs Fire Code.

Once a permit application has been submitted and approved, set up of the display may begin. The permit will be issued at the time of inspection and must remain on site of the display at all times until after the dismantling of the production.

Fees are required for permits and subsequent inspections. The fee amount is based on the current approved Office of the Fire Marshal Fee Schedule.

City special event applications. The OFM charges a fee for applicable city special event applications in addition to firework/pyrotechnic/flame effect applications. Due to liability issues with firework, pyrotechnic, and flame effect productions, the applications for these productions must be submitted separately from any City Special Event application. This means that a City Special Event application incorporating the use of fire works will be issued a permit fee for the City Special Event application as well as the firework/pyrotechnic/flame effect application.

Due to liability issues, firework/pyrotechnic/flame effect applications are not allowed to be combined with a City Special Event Permit Application. Discounted fees for combining applications are not available for firework/pyrotechnic/flame effect applications.

III. Plan Submittal Requirements

In order for a permit to be issued, construction plans must be submitted to the Office of the Fire Marshal and subsequently reviewed and approved. The applicant must submit for approval a detailed drawing of the site and/or production area, its layout, location, separations from other structures, purpose (e.g., retail use, public assembly), and the permit application (See Attachments for examples). When the submittal has been approved, the required fees will be collected and an inspection may be scheduled. Permits are issued upon inspection approval.

The submittal package for a firework, pyrotechnic and/or flame effect production must consist of the following documents. This submittal package must be received by the Office of the Fire Marshal no later than ten (10) business days prior to the production. Incomplete submittals will be disapproved or not accepted.

Submittal requirements include, but are not limited to:

1. Completed permit application
2. Name of person, group, or organization sponsoring the production.
3. Date and time of day of the production.
4. Exact location of the production.
5. Name of the person actually in charge of firing the pyrotechnics.
6. Number, names, and ages of ALL assistants who are to be present.
7. Qualifications of the pyrotechnic operator.
8. Pyrotechnic experience of the operator.
9. Confirmation of any applicable state and federal licenses held by the operator and/or assistant(s).
10. Evidence of the permittee's insurance carrier or financial responsibility in accordance with the 2003 Colorado Springs Fire Code. The insurance certificate shall list the Colorado Springs Fire Department as the Certificate Holder. (See Section V - Insurance)
11. Number and types of fireworks, pyrotechnic devices and/or flame effects and materials to be used, the operators experience with those devices and effects, and a definition of the general responsibilities of the assistant(s).
12. Detailed, to scale, site or facility diagram of the grounds or facilities where the production is to be held. This diagram shall show the point at which the pyrotechnic devices are to be fired, the fallout radius for each pyrotechnic device used in the performance, and the lines behind which the audience shall be restrained; distances shall be measured in feet and all exposures identified in feet from point of display.
13. Point of on-site assembly of pyrotechnic devices. (If assembly on site is required)
14. Manner and place of storage of the pyrotechnic materials and devices.
15. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for EACH of the pyrotechnic material(s) to be used.
16. Certification that the costumes, set, scenery, and rigging materials are inherently flame-retardant or have been treated to achieve flame retardancy.
17. A shot queue list/timeline for each shot during the performance.
18. Signed installer certification
19. Installer/User Certification
20. Flammability certification(s) for the fabric/membrane of the temporary structure. And/or costumes, clothing, scenery, stages, etc.

Once the plan submittal has been approved, a permit will be generated. However the permit will not be issued until fire final inspection and approval. Only then is the production allowed to commence.

All plans must be in accordance with the following applicable national codes and standards:

- NFPA 160 - *Standard on the Use of Flame Effects Before and Audience.*
- NFPA 1123 - *Code for Fireworks Display*
- NFPA 1126 - *Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience.*

IV. Inspections

A Fire Inspector from the Office of the Fire Marshal is required to conduct an inspection for the approval of the firework, pyrotechnic and/or flame effect production installation and permit application prior to the production occurring.

Fire inspections are scheduled by calling the Office of the Fire Marshal and making an appointment after the submittal package has been approved. Inspection scheduling is subject to personnel availability. A minimum of three (3) business days is needed between the inspection scheduling and inspection date. Although it is strongly recommended that inspections be scheduled as far in advance as possible to ensure any desired inspection date.

The firework/pyrotechnic installer and/or operator shall be present on site for the duration of the fire inspection and remain on-site through the production. For fireworks productions, the installer/operator shall remain on-site after the production as required per NFPA 1123.

Prior to the Fire Inspector's arrival for the inspection, the production shall be installed completely and compliant with all applicable fire codes and standards as well as plan review comments. A copy of the permit submittal package shall be available to the inspector.

Fire Inspectors may require the "shooter" to demonstrate any or all of the items used within a production to verify what the effect will be or look like (span/extents of effects, amount of sparks produced, height of flames, etc.) as well as adequate clearances from adjacent hazards. Any deficiencies found by the Fire Inspector must be corrected prior to issuance of the permit.

The Office of the Fire Marshal is authorized to delay, cease or modify the production based on fire and life safety concerns noted during the plan review and/or during final site inspection.

Once the installation has been approved by the inspector, the inspector will issue the permit which then allows the production to commence.

V. Insurance

With the exception of government entities, the permit holder shall furnish a bond or certificate of insurance in an amount deemed adequate by the fire code official for the payment of all potential damages to a person or persons or to property by reason of the permitted display, and arising from any acts of the permit holder, the agent, employees or subcontractors. This bond or certificate shall include:

1. \$2,000,000 general aggregate.
2. \$1,000,000 products and completed operative aggregate.
3. \$1,000,000 each occurrence.
4. Comprehensive automobile liability with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
5. Workers compensation and employers liability as required by statute. Employers' liability coverage is to be carried for a minimum of \$100,000.
6. The insurance shall cover all operations involving fireworks and any vehicles used for the transportation or storage of fireworks, bodily injury liability and property liability for the purpose of payment of any damages to persons or property which arise from, or are caused by, the conduct of an act authorized by the permit upon which a judicial judgment results. The insurance shall also provide protection for underground property damage and property damage resulting from fireworks or explosion. The certificate of insurance shall guarantee 30 days written notice to the chief of the fire department in the event of policy cancellation for any reason. The chief is authorized to specify a greater or lesser amount when, in the chief's opinion, conditions at the location of use indicate the need for modification.

ATTACHMENTS

Blasting/Fireworks/Flame Effects/Pyrotechnics Permit Application

Outdoor Display Site Plan Example

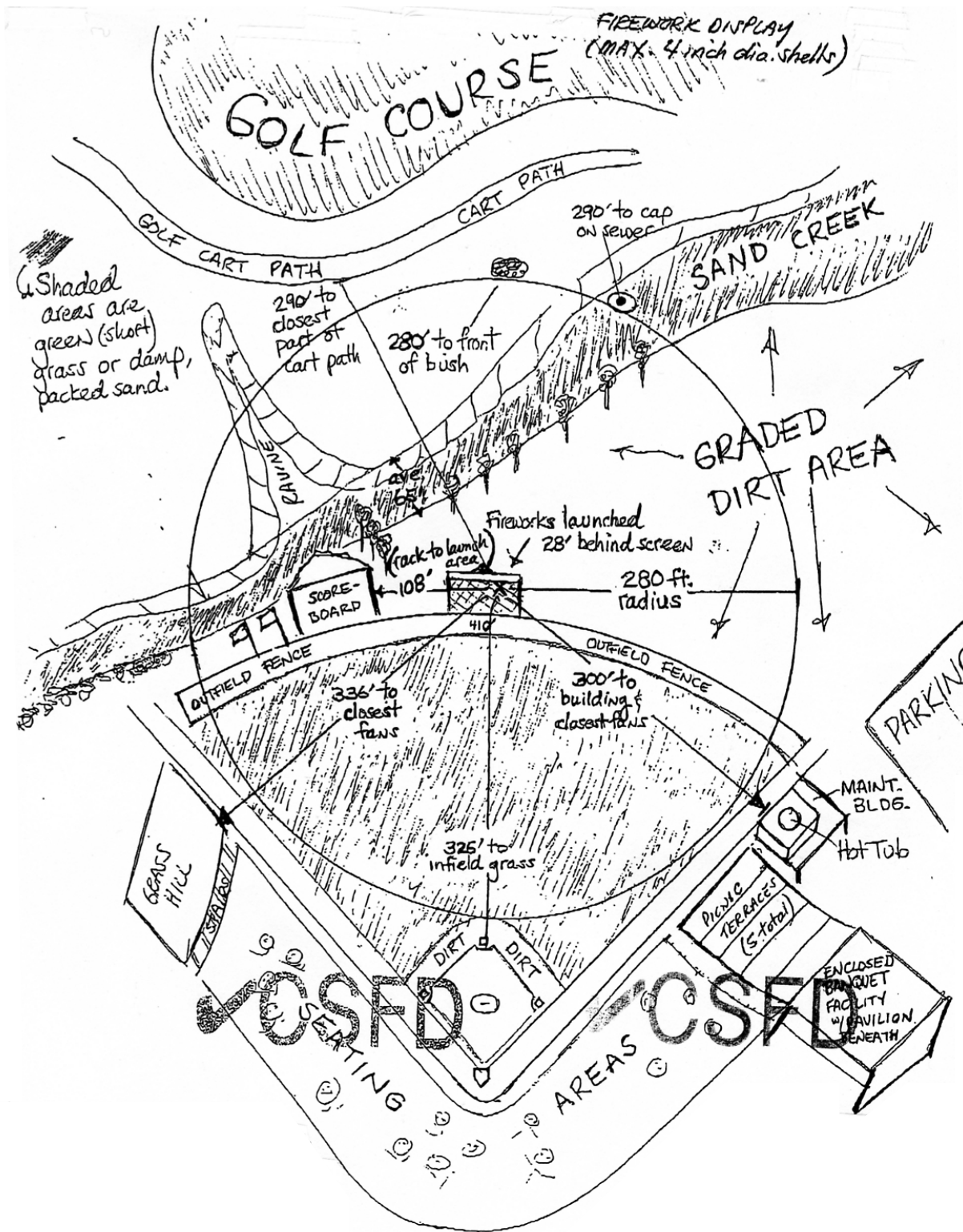
Indoor Display Site Plan Example

Blasting/Fireworks/Flame Effects/Pyrotechnics Display Permit Application

The fireworks display permit is required by the City Code, Chapter 21, Article 7, Part 3, as adopted by the City of Colorado Springs. Return this application and site plan to the Office of the Fire Marshal at 375 Printers Parkway, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80910

APPLICANT	Name of Firm, Corporation , or Individual		Tele #	Fax #	
	Street Address		Email		
	City, State, Zip		Applicant Signature		
	State Cert #		Applicant Printed Name		
CLIENT	Name		Tele #	Fax #	
	Street Address		Point of Contact		
	City, State, Zip		Email		
	Reason for Display				
INSURANCE	Name of Carrier				
	Street Address				
	City, State, Zip		Tele #	Fax #	
	Policy #		Email		
	Limits of Liability				
EVENT INFO	Site Address of Display		COLORADO SPRINGS, CO	Zip	
	Exact Location of Display on Site				
	Date of Display/Shoot		Time(s) of Display/Shoot		
	Rain Date for Display/Shoot				
	Is application part of a City of Colorado Springs, Special Events Application?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If yes, what is the event name and event date?	
OFFICE USE ONLY	CSFD OFM Review <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			Date of Review	
	Plan Review #				
	Date of OFM Inspection		Inspector		
	Permit Fee	Receipt #	Expiration	Permit #	

Example of Outdoor Display Site Map



Example of Indoor Display Site Map

Updated October 1st, 2007

