

STATE LAW

ANY firework that leaves the ground is **ILLEGAL** in North Carolina. Only permitted and certified pyrotechnic operators may conduct aerial firework displays.



When is a permit required?

A permit from the Orange County Fire Marshal's Office is required for any firework or pyrotechnic display that utilizes restricted fireworks. *NOTE: Some exceptions exist.*

Permit applications must be submitted within 30 days of the display date.

Permits are not required for consumer use of permissible (allowable) fireworks.

Permit Requirements

The Fire Marshal may issue a permit when applicable fire safety requirements and the following conditions have been met.

- **Licensed Pyrotechnician**
A pyrotechnician, licensed and approved in North Carolina, must be identified in the application and be on-site.
- **Proof of Insurance**
\$500k to cover real or personal property and \$500k to cover personal injuries
- **Notice to Property Owners**
Required to notify properties within a 1000 ft. radius at least 10 days prior to display (certified mail) and by posting on the event property.

Site Inspection

On event day, Fire Marshals will inspect the display area and provide final approval.

Violations

Violating the Orange County Pyrotechnics Ordinance could result in a misdemeanor charge and fine of not more than \$500 dollars and/or imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

Fireworks (Defined)

“Any and all kinds of pyrotechnics and explosives, which are used for exhibitions or amusement purposes”



Permissible Consumer Fireworks

Toy caps, snake and glow worms, smoke devices, sparklers and fountains, party poppers, snappers, or drop pops.



Prohibited Consumer Fireworks

Rockets, mortars, roman candles, and/or any firework that leaves the ground or has a report (loud “bang”).

NC Fire Prevention Code

As defined by NC G.S. Chapter 14 Article 54

Permissible Consumer Fireworks:

- **Explosive caps designed for toy pistols**
- **Snake and glow worms**
- **Smoke devices**
- **Trick noise makers** (party poppers, snappers or drop pops)
- **Wire sparklers**
- **Sparkling devices** that emit showers of sparks and sometimes whistling or crackling effect when burning, do not detonate or explode, do not spin, and cannot propel through the air.



Fireworks and Pyrotechnics

ALL fireworks are dangerous. Even permissible consumer fireworks can cause serious injury and even death.

The safest course of action is to leave the fireworks to the professionals!

Dial 9-1-1 for Emergencies Only

Contact us!



Orange County Emergency Services
Fire Marshal Division
(919) 245-6100 Office
readyorange.org


ORANGE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

www.orangecountync.gov