

General Guidelines for Outdoor Fireworks Displays
From NFPA 1123
Code for Fireworks Display

This information reflects the minimum requirements for outdoor fireworks displays. (1123-1.2(1))

A site plan shall be submitted to the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ – the City of Milton Fire Department). Such site plan shall include the dimensions of the discharge site, spectator viewing area, parking areas, and the fall-out area and the associated separation distances. (1123-5.1.2)

The site for the outdoor display shall have a radius at least as great as specified for those items in the display with the greatest required radius. For aerial shells, the minimum required radius of the display site shall be 70 ft. per inch of internal mortar diameter of the largest aerial shell to be fired, as shown in Table 5.1.3. (1123-5.1.3)

Table 5.1.3 Distances for Outdoor Aerial Shell Display Sites:
Minimum Separation Distances from Mortars to Spectators for Land or Water Displays

Mortar Size	Minimum Secured Diameter of Site	Vertical Mortars	Angled Mortars 1/3 offset	Mortars to Special Hazards
in.	ft	ft	ft	ft
≤ 1	150	75	75	150
1.5	210	105	75	210
2	280	140	95	280
2.5	350	175	115	350
3	420	210	140	420
4	560	280	190	560
5	700	350	230	700
6	840	420	280	840
7	980	490	320	980
8	1120	560	370	1120
10	1400	700	460	1400

No spectators or spectator parking areas shall be located within the display site. (1123-5.1.4.5)

Dwellings, buildings, and structures shall be permitted to be located within the display site with the approval of the AHJ and the owner of the dwelling, building, or structure. (1123-5.1.4.6)

The area selected for the discharge of aerial shells shall be located so that the trajectory of the shells shall not com within 25 ft. of any overhead object. (1123-5.1.4.7)

The sponsor of the display shall be responsible for providing fire protection for the display. Such protection shall be acceptable to the AHJ. (1123-8.1)

All aerial shells shall be pre-loaded and electronically fired from a location that places the shooter and assistants at least 75 ft away from the mortar. (1123-8.2.9.2)

The Operator shall be at least 21 years old and licensed or approved by the AHJ in accordance with any and all applicable federal, state, and local laws. Applicants shall provide evidence of actual experience as an operator as part of demonstrating competency to the AHJ. (1123-10.1)

Display shall meet all applicable requirements of NFPA 1123 and shall be approved by AHJ.

The 2012 Florida Statutes

Title XLVI Chapter 791 CRIMES SALE OF FIREWORKS

791.012 Minimum fireworks safety standards.—The outdoor display of fireworks in this state shall be governed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1123, Code for fireworks Display, 1995 Edition, approved by the American National Standards Institute. Any state, county, or municipal law, rule, or ordinance may provide for more stringent regulations for the outdoor display of fireworks, but in no event may any such law, rule, or ordinance provide for less stringent regulations for the outdoor display of fireworks. The division shall promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of this section. The Code for fireworks Display shall not govern the display of any fireworks on private, residential property and shall not govern the display of those items included under s. 791.01(4)(b) and (c) and authorized for sale thereunder.

791.02 Sale of fireworks regulated; rules and regulations.—

- (1) Except as hereinafter provided it is unlawful for any person, firm, copartnership, or corporation to offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail, **or use or explode** any fireworks; provided that the board of county commissioners shall have power to adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the granting of permits for supervised public display of fireworks by fair associations, amusement parks, and other organizations or groups of individuals when such public display is to take place outside of any municipality; provided, further, that **the governing body of any municipality shall have power to adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the granting of permits for supervised public display of fireworks within the boundaries of any municipality. Every such display shall be handled by a competent operator to be approved by the chiefs of the police and fire departments of the municipality in which the display is to be held, and shall be of such a character, and so located, discharged, or fired as in the opinion of the chief of the fire department, after proper inspection, shall not be hazardous to property or endanger any person. Application for permits shall be made in writing at least 15 days in advance of the date of the display.** After such privilege shall have been granted, sales, possession, use, and distribution of fireworks for such display shall be lawful for that purpose only. No permit granted hereunder shall be transferable.
- (2) A sparkler or other product authorized for sale under this chapter may not be sold by a retailer or seasonal retailer unless the product was obtained from a manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler registered with the division pursuant to s. 791.015. Each retailer and seasonal retailer shall keep, at every location where sparklers are sold, a copy of an invoice or other evidence of purchase from the manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler, which states the registration certificate number for the particular manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler and the specific items covered by the invoice. Each seasonal retailer shall, in addition, exhibit a copy of his or her registration certificate at each seasonal retail location.

791.05 Seizure of illegal fireworks. - Each sheriff, or his or her appointee, or any other police officer, shall seize, take, remove or cause to be removed at the expense of the owner, all stocks of fireworks or combustibles offered or exposed for sale, stored, or held in violation of this chapter.

791.06 Penalties.—Any firm, copartnership, or corporation violating the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.083 or, in the case of individuals, the members of a partnership and the responsible officers and agents of an association or corporation, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.