



## **ARCADIA FIRE DEPARTMENT Fireworks Display Inspection Checklist For Outdoor Aerial Show**

### **Administration:**

- Fire Department permit
- Approved site plan

### **Personnel:**

- Verify & record Pyrotechnic Operator identity
- Operator in possession of a valid license
- Proper license
- Verify & record assistants and helpers
- Verify ages

### **Site Security:**

- Verify site security of storage area, discharged area, display area, and fallout areas are as of approved plan.
- Verify arrangements for traffic and crowd control before, during and after the display.

### **Transportation & Storage Arrangements:**

- Transportation shipping documents match product in vehicle
- Vehicle placards are provided as required
- Temporary storage is locked and grounded.

### **Fire Protection and Safety Equipment:**

- Fire extinguisher available and accessible
- Shovel & container available for retrieving duds
- Appropriate protective gear (i.e., hardhats, long sleeved shirts are available for persons manually discharging fireworks).

### **Mortar Inspection:**

- Compare list of mortar racks, etc. with actual equipment
- Mortars are approved for use with the type of shells to be fired
- Mortars are inspected for defects, debris, etc.
- Base plugs are securely attached to bottom of mortars
- Mortars are proper lengths for size of shells to be fired.

### **Rack Inspection:**

- No more than 10 guns per rack
- Base & ends are nominal 2" thick lumber
- Mortars have 2x4 blocks between for separation
- Mortars 3" or larger have side braces 1"x6" nominal lumber or 1/2" x4" plywood
- All racks with 6 or more mortars have diagonal braces
- Racks are secured and will not fall over.

**Trough (Mortar Box) Inspection:**

- ❑ No trough is more than 8' in length
- ❑ Bottom is supported by ¾" ash plywood, if bottom surface will not support firing of motors
- ❑ Trough is at least ¾" plywood on sides and secured with 3/8" rods with nuts or pins, trough ends have rods or angle "U" brackets at each end
- ❑ Sand or soft dirt free of rocks & debris are used to fill trough
- ❑ Minimum separation distance between mortars is provided
- ❑ Trough is of proper height to securely buried mortars 2/3" of their length.

**Drum Inspection:**

- ❑ Drums are in good condition
- ❑ Sand or soft dirt free of rocks & debris are used as fill
- ❑ Drum size allows for minimum separations between mortars
- ❑ Drums are of proper height to securely buried mortars 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of their length

**Trenches, Etc., To Bury Mortars in Ground:**

- ❑ Planking below mortars is provided for unstable or uneven surfaces
- ❑ Trenches are of sufficient depth to security buried mortars 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of length
- ❑ Minimum separations distances between mortars is provided
- ❑ Sand or soft dirt free of rocks & debris are used as fill.

**Aerial Shell Inspection:**

- ❑ Number of shells match quantity listed on permit
- ❑ Shells are properly labeled for use in California
- ❑ Operator inspects shell for damage or defects
- ❑ Operator sizes shells for proper fit in mortars.

**Ground Device Inspection:**

- ❑ Ground devices match quantity listed on permit
- ❑ Location and spacing of devices is per permit
- ❑ Equipment is available to secure & brace ground devices.

**Discharge & Fallout Area Inspection:**

- ❑ Location is per approved permit
- ❑ Minimum required fallout area is provided
- ❑ Arrangements provided to secure site & fallout area during shell loading.

**Electrically Fired Display Inspection:**

- ❑ Power is restricted to batteries or an isolated generator
- ❑ Firing system is protected against accidentally firing
- ❑ Method for circuit testing is available
- ❑ Firing panel is located a minimum of 100 feet from devices
- ❑ Devices are located within a clear view of the operator.

**Manually Fired Display Inspection:**

- ❑ Safety caps protecting fuses remain in place until immediately before firing
- ❑ Operator and Assistant are wearing safety equipment, i.e., hard hats, safety glasses, ear protection, long sleeve shirts and pants, or coveralls, etc.

**Reloaded Mortars Display Inspection:**

- ❑ No HDPE mortars are used for reloading
- ❑ Ready boxes are placed 25 feet away & upwind
- ❑ Ready boxes are divided into compartments for shell size
- ❑ Ready boxes are covered with a flame retardant canvas cover.

**Operation of Display:**

- ❑ Discharge area is clear of unauthorized personnel before shell loading
- ❑ No one under 18 years of age is in discharge, display, fallout or loading areas during display
- ❑ Mortars are arranged over fallout area & away from spectators
- ❑ On electrical shows, discharged area is clear of all personnel during circuit testing
- ❑ All devices are ONLY fired on order or signal of the license operator
- ❑ During discharge of shells, operator observes the activities to ensure wind and trajectory are adequate and makes necessary adjustments
- ❑ If a misfire occurs, mortars are identified, marked and undisturbed.

**Post Display Activities:**

- ❑ NO ONE is permitted to enter display, discharged, or fallout areas until pyrotechnic operator has determined the area is safe and secure
- ❑ Ensure pyrotechnic operator and crew locate any unexploded shells (inspecting the firing area). Shells located are properly disposed of
- ❑ Unfired shells are removed and returned to supplier in a manner approved or permitted.

**Notifications:**

- ❑ Pyrotechnic Operator provides verbal notification to State Fire Marshal for any person obtaining serious injury or death, or any fires caused by the display which required response by an emergency agency
- ❑ Authority having jurisdiction has filed charges of violations that would be cause for revocation or denial of a license to the State Fire Marshal within three (3) years of the alleged act or occasion
- ❑ Authority having jurisdiction reports any firework seizures to the State Fire Marshal within three (3) days.

**Remarks Section:**

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