



PYROTECHNICS PROXIMATE AUDIENCE DISPLAYS

These guidelines are to be followed when a business, group, or other entity within the City of Rockwall, requests the use and display of pyrotechnics, commonly referred to as “fireworks” or other theatrical special effects indoors.

All pyrotechnic storage, use, and/or display criteria for the purposes of these guidelines and any other guidelines or requirements of the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division shall conform to the 2015 International Fire Code, as adopted and amended by the City of Rockwall, Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office rules and regulations, and NFPA.

These guidelines do not replace, nor supersede any codes and/or ordinances adopted by the City of Rockwall, or determinations and positions of the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division.

Defined by International Fire Code. Fireworks shall mean any composition or device for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect for entertainment purposes by combustion, deflagration, and detonation, and/or activated by ignition with a match or other heat-producing device that meets the definition of 1.4G fireworks or 1.3G fireworks as set forth herein.

General Requirements

1) It shall be unlawful for any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or association to sell, possess, manufacture, storage, handle, and use any fireworks within the City limits of the City of Rockwall.

Exceptions:

1. The use of fireworks for approved display as permitted by the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division.
 2. The possession of fireworks otherwise allowed by State Law.
- 2) The possession, manufacture, storage, handling and use of fireworks are prohibited outside the city limits for a distance of five thousand (5,000) feet, provided that the territory encompassed within the five thousand (5,000) feet outside the city limits is not within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of another municipality. A violation of this ordinance is declared to be a common and public nuisance.
- 3) Before the performance of any production, the operator shall submit a plan for the use of pyrotechnics to the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division.
- 4) The addition of pyrotechnics to a performance or any change in the presentation of pyrotechnics, excluding the reduction in the number or size of the devices, shall require approval by the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division.
- 5) For displays, compliance is required with the following:
- a) 2015 IFC
 - b) Texas Occupational Code Chapter 2154, Regulation of Fireworks & Fireworks Displays & 28 TAC 34.800 for licensing
 - c) Current Editions of NFPA 1123, 1124, 1126, and/or 160
- 6) Based upon the location and size of the pyrotechnic display and/or effects, a Fire Watch may be required throughout the duration of the display. This shall be determined at the sole discretion of the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division.

Submittal Requirements-Proximate Audience Displays

7) This section shall apply to any outdoor use of pyrotechnics at distances less than those required by [NFPA 1123](#), *Code for Fireworks Display*.



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- 8) Each submittal shall have a
 - a) Completed Rockwall Fire Marshal Division Permit Application
 - b) A copy of your Texas State Fire Marshal's Office Special Effect or Flame Effects license, which ever is applicable.
 - c) Proof of Insurance including general liability, worker's comp, and all limits indicated.
- 9) The plan shall include the following:
 - a) Name of the person, group, or organization sponsoring the production
 - b) Date and time of day of the production
 - c) Exact location of the production
 - d) Name of the person actually in charge of firing the pyrotechnics (i.e., the pyrotechnic operator)
 - e) Number, names, and ages of all assistants who are to be present
 - f) Number and types of pyrotechnic devices and materials to be used, the operator's experience with those devices and effects, and a definition of the general responsibilities of assistants
 - g) Diagram of the grounds or facilities where the production is to be held that shows 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 is to be restrained
 - h) Point of on-site assembly of pyrotechnic devices
 - i) Manner and place of storage of the pyrotechnic materials and devices
 - j) Material safety data sheet (MSDS) for the pyrotechnic material(s) to be used
 - k) Certification that the set, scenery, and rigging materials are inherently flame-retardant or have been treated to achieve flame-retardancy
 - l) Certification that all materials worn by performers in the fallout area during use of pyrotechnic effects shall be inherently flame-retardant or have been treated to achieve flame-retardancy
- 10) Indicate compliance with SB 693 for use of Flame Effects or Pyrotechnics.
- 11) Indicate compliance with Texas Occupational Code Chapter 2154 & TAC 34.800.

Pre-Show Review and Demonstration

- 12) A walk-through and a representative demonstration of the pyrotechnics shall be approved by the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division before a permit is approved.
- 13) The demonstration shall be scheduled with sufficient time allowed to reset/reload the pyrotechnics before the arrival of the audience.
- 14) The pre-show inspections shall include a review of the following:
 - a) In-place fire protection
 - b) Fireworks storage location and magazine
 - c) Detonation device
 - d) Separation distance between the audience and the pyrotechnic devices
 - e) Exits
 - f) Licenses and trained personnel on-site
- 15) Where the use of certain indoor pyrotechnics requires smoke detectors to be bypassed or air-handling systems to be disengaged, the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division shall be notified and a Rockwall Fire Marshal Division representative shall be present for the demonstration.
- 16) The individual responsible for the life safety systems of the building shall return those systems to normal operating conditions as soon as the likelihood of false alarms from the pyrotechnics has passed.