

EXETER TOWNSHIP

4975 DeMoss Road
Reading, PA 19606

Phone (610) 779-4888
Fax (610) 779-5950

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE CODES & INSPECTIONS

REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPLAY / DISCHARGE OF INDOOR / OUTDOOR FIREWORKS

A. OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS

A Certificate of Fitness shall be obtained from the Fire Prevention Office. The Certificate is listed under the business name and is a business resume. The annual fee is \$100.00

- Complete application for certificate.
- Provide copy of insurance/bond display.
- Provide copy of registration with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Provide copies of company/business certifications
- Provide a list of experience, including the most current.
- Provide a list of company shooters name, address, age, years of experience, qualification, and license.

B. EVENT / DISPLAY / EXHIBITION – REQUIREMENTS

- Complete application for fire permit - \$ 500.00 fee per event.
- Diagram of complete site.
- Fireworks shot list.
- A demo shot may be required prior to show/event (Discretion of Fire Official).
- Approval form by Fire Official.

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DEPARTMENT OF FIRE CODES & INSPECTIONS

FIREWORKS – PYROTECHNICS DISPLAYS

GENERAL INFORMATION

International Fire Code – 2003 edition Section 3308 – Fireworks display

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS - The following requirements shall be met before a permit is issued for the discharge of fireworks:

- **OPERATIONAL Permit required**
- **CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS**
- **DIAGRAM OF SITE:** A diagram of the fireworks discharge site and surrounding area shall be submitted along with an application form. The diagram shall show the discharge site and the distance in feet to nearby streets, buildings, trees and other overhead objects, which may obstruct the discharge of the fireworks. Distancing requirements of NFPA 1123 shall be followed.
- **APPROVALS REQUIRED:** Fire Department shall review and approve the application. Before the Fire Department approves an application it shall:
 - Investigate and approve the qualifications of the fireworks shooter and the company employing the shooter.
 - Inspect and approve the area where the fireworks shall be discharged.
 - Approve the type of fireworks to be fired.
 - Provide / furnish a bond or certificate of insurance

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INDOOR FIREWORK DISPLAY REQUIREMENTS

All public fireworks displays shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, generally recognized safety precautions, the International Fire Code, NFPA Code 1123, 1126, 160 and the following:

- Indoor Pyrotechnics are allowed in sprinklered buildings ONLY.
- No effect shall be nearer, horizontally, than 15 feet from the audience.
- No device shall be placed/used under a combustible stage.
- All hanging material including set, scenery, and rigging materials, shall be flame retardant and not in close proximity to the display devices.
- Pyrotechnician shall have an unobstructed view of all pyrotechnic effects at all times.
- Responsible personnel equipped with fire extinguishers shall stand-by during the show.
- All pyrotechnic materials and devices shall be stored in accordance with Title 27, Code of Federal regulations, Subpart K, state and local regulations including lockable storage rooms.
- All pyrotechnic devices shall be mounted in a secure manner to maintain their proper positions and orientations so that when they are fired, the pyrotechnic effects described in the plan submitted by the permittee are produced. Pyrotechnic devices shall be mounted so that no fallout from the device endangers human lives, results in personal injury or damages property.
- Propane cannons, pipe bombs, concussion mortars or other similar effects are prohibited.

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OUTDOOR FIREWORK DISPLAY REQUIREMENTS

- For manual ignition, using a quick match fuse, the fuse shall be long enough to allow not less than 6 inches.
- Single break aerial salute shells shall be limited to a maximum size of 5 inches.
- Ground salutes shall not exceed 3 inches and be constructed of paper or other equivalent materials. They shall not be constructed of metal or plastic.
- As soon as fireworks have been delivered to display site, they shall not be left unattended and shall be kept dry. The public shall be kept a minimum of 50 feet from the fireworks.
- A ready box shall be a portable, weather-resisted container that protects contents from burning debris, with a self-closing cover. (Tarpaulins shall not be considered as ready-boxes.) They shall be located at a distance not less than 25 feet from the mortar placements.
- Construction of mortar racks shall be according to enclosed papers.
- Maintain the minimum separation distances from the mortars to spectators according to Table 3.1.3 of NFPA 1123.
- Maintain a minimum distance of 75 feet from spectator viewing for ground displays.
- Fallout area shall be a large open area.
- Monitors shall be positioned around discharge area to maintain crowd control and restrict entry.
- Minimum distances required for display set-up shall be calculated according to formula listed in NFPA 1123. (Sketch and calculations must be shown on plans).

- Discharge site shall have at least a 70 feet radius per inch of internal mortar diameter of the largest aerial shell to be fired.
- Pyrotechnician must have an unobstructed view of all pyrotechnic effects at the time of the detonation.
- The event shall be cancelled if wind gusts exceed 25 mph.
- ONLY shooters will be allowed in the firing area (Hot Zone). All other family & friends of shooters must go to the spectator viewing area.

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DEPARTMENT OF FIRE CODES & INSPECTIONS **FIRE PREVENTION PERMIT** **"OPERATIONAL"**

Fee is \$100.00

***(Exception)** – Permits fees for Explosives / Fireworks #105.6.15 and Pyrotechnics Special Effects shall be **\$500.00**

Today's Date: _____

Business Starting Date: _____

Business Name: _____

Business Street Address: _____

Business Contact Person: Phone: _____

Location / Address of work performed: _____

Reason for Application: New Business ___ Change of ownership ___ Change of address ___
Previously operating without permit ___ New Location _____

Other than yours, is there another business operating at this address?

Yes ___ No ___

If yes, provide the name of the business: _____

A Fire Code Permit is required to maintain, use, store, or handle materials, or to conduct processes, which produce conditions hazardous to life or property, or to install equipment used in connection with such activities. If your business intends upon engaging in any of the following activities, operations, practices or functions, a Fire Code Permit may be required. Please identify all of your business' intended activities by placing an "X" in the box provided. If you require assistance, or would like more information, contact us at 610-779-4888. When issued, the permit shall be posted in a conspicuous location on the premises and shall be kept on the premises until removed/replaced by the Fire Official or AHJ. The permit shall be renewed annually. Changes in use or owner will require issuance of a new Fire Code Permit.

Items below for Fire Marshal's Office Use Only

This section is for application approval only.

Inspector _____
Date _____

This section is for on-site final approval only.

Inspector _____
Date _____

Permit # _____ AMOUNT RECEIVED _____ Check No. _____

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DEPARTMENT OF FIRE CODES & INSPECTIONS

APPLICATION TO OPERATE / DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS

Fireworks Business and operator:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone #: _____ Fax #: _____
Contact Name: _____
Telephone #: _____

Organization Sponsor:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone #: _____ Fax #: _____
Contact Name: _____
Telephone #: _____

Location of Event:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone #: _____ Fax #: _____
Contact Name: _____
Telephone #: _____
Date of event: _____ Time of event: _____

List quantity and kinds of fireworks to be discharged: (Inventory)

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____
- 7) _____
- 8) _____

Manner and place of storage of fireworks prior to and during the event:

Names of Shooters, Qualifications and License Numbers:

1) _____
2) _____
3) _____
4) _____
5) _____

Provide a diagram of grounds where fireworks are to be held and the following:

- Point of fireworks discharge
- Location and distances of all buildings
- Location and distances of all roads
- Location and distances of all power, communication lines
- Location and distance of audience
- Fallout radius of each device

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**** Application form for OPERATIONAL permit must be completed.***

**** Payment of fee must be made at time of application.***

The above information will be reviewed and the fire official will complete an approval from.

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PYROTECHNIC/FIREWORKS DISPLAY INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

1. Access

- Fire lane clear
- Hydrants not blocked
- Fire department connections clear
- Standpipe connections clear
- At least two fire extinguishers provided
- Extinguishing equipment charged and in good working order
- Warning signs in place

2. Exits

- All designated exits clear
- Exits visible

3. Pyrotechnic Materials and Devices

- Proper and current license in the possession of the pyrotechnic operator
- Permit on site
- Fire department briefed on proposed activity
- Proper ventilation

4. Electrical

- Cords and connections in good condition
- Power supply safely arranged
- Pyrotechnic firing mechanism in good working order

5. Flame proofing

- Set and scenic materials treated for flame retardance
- Burlap and other protective materials used for rigging treated for flame retardance

Signature _____

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DEPARTMENT OF FIRE CODES & INSPECTIONS

FIREWORKS - PYROTECHNICS DISPLAY

APPROVAL FORM

File # - _____ Date Received _____ Event _____

Display location/address: _____

Display date: _____ Display Time: _____

Type and number of devices: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Shooters Name: _____

Address: _____ Telephone #: _____

THIS APPROVAL IS CONDITIONED UPON REVIEW OF DEMONSTRATION
PRIOR TO EVENT

The Fire official or AHJ shall have the right to be present at the firing of any licensed public display of fireworks and shall have the right to cause the display to be stopped, unless it is conducted in strict accordance with the statements made in the application from the permit, and so as not to be hazardous to property or endangers any person.

REVIEWED _____ APPROVED _____