



Contact Information

For an immediate response, please call your local State Police Troop Duty Office or State Police Dispatch at 508-820-2121 and ask to be connected.

For an administrative pickup, please contact the State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit at 978-567-3310 during normal business hours.

Massachusetts State Police • Department of Fire Services • Office of the State Fire Marshal

Energetic Material Pickup and Disposal

The Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad is available to support local public safety agencies with the safe disposal of energetic materials such as ammunition, fireworks and other illegal explosives, and flares. Please review these guidelines for preparation and response.

Ammunition

- Shelled ammunition and cased ammunition must be separated from each other and placed into 5-gallon buckets with lids.
- **Shelled ammunition** bucket will contain any ammunition where the outer hull is made of plastic or cardboard containing the components. This includes all shotgun shells, slugs and shot.
- **Cased ammunition** bucket will contain all ammunition with a metal hull, often brass containing the powder, primer and bullet. This includes all your standard ammunition (9 mm, .45 ACP, .22 LR, etc).
- All ammunition should be removed from its manufacturer's packaging or other storage container before placing into the bucket.
- When buckets are $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ full, place a lid on them and call to be placed on the pickup list. Local disposal of ammunition may be required on a case by case basis.

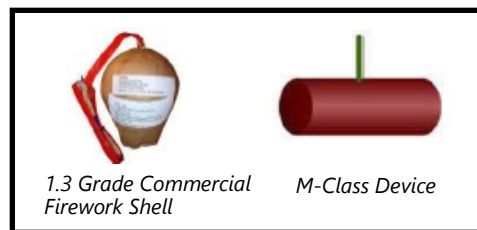


Cased ammunition

Shelled ammunition

Fireworks

- Fireworks shall not be submerged in water prior to pickup.
- **Consumer fireworks** will be picked up in their consumer packaging. Fireworks that have been altered or compromised must be disposed of immediately and will require an immediate bomb squad response for local disposal.
- **Professional, commercial-grade fireworks** (1.3g) will require an immediate Bomb Squad response for local disposal.
- M-Class Devices will require an immediate response for local disposal.



1.3 Grade Commercial
Firework Shell

M-Class Device

Signs of Illegal Explosives (M-Class Devices)

- The casing resembles a roll of coins with a fuse. Most outer shells are made of cardboard tubes.
- The device looks oddly shaped and wrapped in brown paper that may be filled with an energetic materials.
- Most outer shells have a covering that is often red, silver, brown, or patriotic in color.
- The device is often 1"-6" long and up to an inch or more in diameter.
- The person in possession of the device has no evidence of a receipt or commercial packaging, or they cannot tell you where they originally purchased it.
- An M-Class Device is considered a Destructive Device under Massachusetts General Law.

Flares

- Marine, road, launches, handheld, consumer, commercial, and military flares are all accepted.
- Local disposal of flares may be required on a case by case basis.
- Flares shall be removed from packaging and placed into a 5-gallon bucket for transportation.
- All packaging and accessories are to be disposed of by the requesting agency.

Any items in question (e.g. military rounds, military flares, or illumination flares) should be brought to the attention of the Bomb Squad to determine the appropriate response.