



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*  
*Department of Fire Services*



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STATE FIRE MARSHAL

**FIREWORKS DISPLAY CHECKLIST**

Date of Show: \_\_\_\_\_

**Before Show** /check:

- Pre show site inspection.
- Natural barriers must be pre-approved by the State Fire Marshal's Office (plan sufficient time ahead)
- At least 20 days prior to display application/permit must be submitted, including site diagram (hand drawn sketches are not acceptable) and shell inventory.
- Verify that all applicable State Fire Marshal permits such as transportation, electrical firing board, portable firing trailers, 12-inch shells have been issued.
- Within 5 days of receipt of application/permit, form must be approved or disapproved and forwarded to the State Fire Marshal's Office. This may be done via mail, email or fax.

**Day of Show** /check:

- Establish secured area with a suitable barrier such as snow fencing or equivalent (caution tape is not sufficient), natural barriers, as approved by SFMO (secured area must be established and maintained from the arrival of the fireworks until the completion of the display).
- Verify State Fire Marshal permits (transportation, electric firing boards, and portable firing trailers).
- If using racks, determine that the rack placement conforms to the approved site.
- Check racks for correct spacing and stability. Check angling of mortars.
- If not using racks, determine that tubes are sufficiently buried. Check angling of mortars.
- Determine weather and wind condition prior to display.

**Following the Show** /check:

- A competent operator must insure a thorough search is made for any unignited shells immediately following the display and at the first available daylight.
- Upon completion of the search, a competent operator shall report all findings to the head of the Fire Department.