



FOLSOM FIRE DEPARTMENT

535 Glenn Drive Folsom, CA 95630
Office (916) 984-2280 Fax (916) 984-7081
www.folsom.ca.us



CITY OF
FOLSOM
DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE

RECEIVE/SELL/LAUNCH MODEL ROCKET MOTORS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

CCR Title 19 requires that a permit shall be obtained from the Fire Prevention Division prior to engaging in the following: ... storing, selling, offering for sale, or launching any model rocket motor.

A model rocket user is prohibited from selling motors in his/her possession to any other person. The user shall keep all model rocket motors in his/her possession from the time of purchase to the time when the motor is installed in the model rocket during the preparation of firing.

Launch Sites: Model rockets shall not be launched from any site other than an approved launch site for which a permit has been issued.

Information required for permit issuance:

Plot plan indicating the firing area and recovery area.

Notarized statement from property owner indicating owner's awareness of these requirements and permission to launch model rockets from the property.

Physical inspection of the proposed launch site shall be made prior to issuance of the permit.

Launch site permits may specify special provisions such as:

Lines or barricades to restrain spectators from encroaching on required clearances.

Fire Department notification each time rockets are fired.

Launch site may require securing to prevent unauthorized use.

Age Restrictions: Model rocket motors shall not be sold, given or delivered to any person under 18 years old with the exception that motors bearing standardized motor coding 1/4A, 1/2A, A, B or C may be sold to any person not less than 14 years old. Children less than 12 years old who are taking part in a model rocket education program may receive and fire approved model rockets motors when under the direct supervision and control of an adult. The approved model rocket motors must be obtained from the adult in charge of the firing. Rocket motors for the exception are limited to engine codings 1/4A, 1/2A, A, B or C.

Launch Sites: A launch site shall consist of a firing area and recovery area.

The firing area is the area immediately surrounding the launch devices within a radius of 10 feet. The firing area shall not be closer than 25 feet to the boundary of the launch site.

The recovery area shall include the firing area and the minimum area determined necessary to retrieve the launched rocket. This minimum area shall be based upon the estimated height achieved by the rocket. See NFPA 1122 to determine heights.

Launch sites shall not be located in grain fields, dry grass, brush or forest covered lands.

Launch sites shall not include any buildings or structures unless approved by the Fire Prevention Division.

Launch sites shall not be operated in a manner that creates a hazard to persons or property.

Launch sites shall not contain or be located near any high voltage lines, major highways or other obstacles deemed hazardous by the Fire Department.

See back for additional requirements

MODEL ROCKET MOTOR PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

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The permittee or representative as designated on the permit shall be responsible for the safety of all spectators and other persons connected with the firing of the model rockets, and shall supervise the arming of the rockets with the rocket motor and the firing and disposing of all unfired or defective rocket motors.

Launching Requirements: No model rocket launch shall take place unless the following conditions are met:

1. Model rockets shall be only launched during daylight hours, unless specifically approved by the Fire Department.
2. Surface winds at the launch site shall not exceed 20 MPH and vertical visibility from the firing area shall be at least 2,000 feet.
3. A launching guide (tube, wire, or other suitable device) shall be used to restrict the horizontal motion of the rocket until sufficient flight velocity is achieved to maintain stability during flight. Rocket motor ignition shall be properly supervised, shall be by remote electrical means only, and under the control of persons launching the rocket. A launch angle of not less than 60 degrees from the horizontal shall be used.
4. The recovery device material (parachute, etc.) ejected from the rocket during the launch-flight sequence shall be flame resistant material.
5. All personnel conducting firing shall maintain a clear distance of 10 feet from the launch platform during countdown and firing. All personnel assisting or observing the firing shall maintain a clear distance of 25 feet from the launch platform during countdown and firing.

Testing: Model rocket motors may be fired on the ground for the purpose of determining performance. Testing locations shall be approved by the Fire Prevention Division and shall conform to the following minimum conditions:

1. Motor shall be affixed to a testing device or an immovable structure in such a manner that the motor may not become free during the test or experiment.
2. The motor shall be ignited only by remotely operated electrical means fully under the control of the person conducting the test.
3. When tests are conducted indoors, each motor tested shall be in a closed noncombustible hood or booth with a vent leading directly to the outside of the building.
4. Before a motor may be tested or fired, its exhaust path shall be cleared of all flammable objects prior to igniting the motor.
5. Persons who conduct, participate in, or observe the testing or firing of a model rocket motor shall maintain a safe distance from the motor, and particularly its exhaust path.

Storage: When kept in any dwelling, apartment house, lodging house or hotel; model rocket motors shall be stored in a stout wooden box or equivalent container. Storage in excess of 20 pounds shall be in a Class II magazine.