APPLICATION FOR FIREWORKS
PERMIT FEE $125.00

Office of the Fire Marshal
PO Box 247 * 2938 River Rd W, Bldg I
Goochland, VA 23063
(804) 556-5365

☐ **Display** ☐ **Retail Sales**

Application Date: _____

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Date of Event: _____ **Time of Event:** _____

Purpose of Event: _____ **Event Location:** _____

Event Sponsor: _____ **Phone:** _____

Retail Sales Location: _____ **Dates:** *From* _____ *To* _____

Fireworks Company Name: _____

Fireworks Company Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Company Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

All applicable codes relating to the sale, storage, and display of fireworks shall be followed. Applicable codes include, but are not limited to, the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, NFPA codes, the Uniform Statewide Building Code, and any other zoning or local regulations. Also required when submitting this application:

1. A copy of the site plan stating distances from the launch area to buildings/structures, highways, and viewing areas
2. A valid certificate of insurance listing Goochland County as an additional insured is required
3. Copy of the Virginia State Fire Marshal's Pyrotechnician Certificate and copy of the ATF certificate for the shooter
4. List of amounts and sizes of pyrotechnics that will be launched (shot list)

If application is related to retail sales, a floor plan shall accompany the application identifying the location(s) of storage and the retail display. A list of all products for retail sales shall accompany this application. A permit shall be issued prior to the delivery of any product for retail sales. Failure to comply with all applicable regulations will result in the revocation of the permit. I agree the information provided is true and correct and further agree to comply with all regulations.

Permit fees and a copy of the application should be taken to the County Treasurer's Office at 1800 Sandy Hook Rd, Suite 210 or mailed to PO Box 188 Goochland, VA 23063. Proof of payment (stamped copy of application) should then be submitted to the Office of the Fire Marshal.

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Fee Received: _____ **Check Number:** _____ **Check Date:** _____

Fire Marshal Approval: _____ **Date:** _____

Zoning: _____ **Date:** _____

Building Inspections: _____ **Date:** _____

County Administration Approval: _____ **Date:** _____

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS/PYROTECHNICS

A permit to conduct a fireworks/pyrotechnics display will be granted subject to the following conditions contained in the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, the Goochland County Code and NFPA 1123/1124. ***** DENOTES FIREWORKS ONLY***

1. A true copy of the valid liability insurance policy or certificate of insurance with liability limits of no less than one million dollars ($1,000,000) for personal injury and/or property damage, caused by or as a result of the fireworks/pyrotechnics display, shall be delivered to the Goochland County Fire Marshal's Office no later than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the requested display. Such insurance shall name the County of Goochland as additional insured, as the County's interest may appear, because of the subject fireworks/pyrotechnics display.

2. The display shall be handled by a competent operator. The name of the operator shall be submitted to the Fire Marshal's Office no later than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the requested display, along with a copy of the operators Virginia State Fire Marshal's Pyrotechnician Certificate and a copy of the operator's ATF certificate for shooter.

3. All pyrotechnic displays, fireworks and the like **shall** be fired/initiated by electronic means via a master control board. Hand firing of shells cakes and other fireworks are prohibited unless expressly approved by the Chief Fire Marshal.

4. Storage: All fireworks/pyrotechnics shall be stored and transported according to the requirements of the NFPA 1124.

   a. As soon as fireworks/pyrotechnics have been delivered to the display site, <u>they shall not be left unattended</u> nor be allowed to become wet.

   b. All shells shall be inspected upon delivery to the display site by the display operators. Any shells having tears, leaks, broken fuses, or showing signs of having been wet shall not be fired. After the display, any such shells shall either be returned to the supplier or be destroyed according to the supplier's instructions.**

   c. All shells shall be separated according to diameter and stored in tightly covered containers of metal, wood, or plastic or in fiber drums or corrugated cardboard cartons meeting U. S. Department of Transportation specifications for transportation of fireworks/pyrotechnics. A flame-resistant tarpaulin, meeting the requirement of NFPA 701, shall be permitted to be used as a covering over the containers, if additional protection is desired. **

   d. The shell storage area shall be located at a minimum distance of not less than 25 feet from the discharge site. Exception: where acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction, alternate protective measures may be used in lieu of the above requirements. **

   e. During the display, shells shall be stored upwind from the discharge site. If the wind should shift during the display, the shell storage area shall be relocated to as again to be upwind from the discharge site. **

Installation of Mortars

Mortars shall be inspected for dents, bent ends, and cracked or broken plugs prior to ground placement. Mortars found to be defective in any way shall not be used. Any scale on the inside surface of the mortars shall be removed.

   a. Mortars shall be positioned so that the projectile is carried away from spectators and into a clear area acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction. **

b. Mortars shall be either buried securely into the ground to a depth of 2/3 to 3/4 of their length or fastened securely in mortar boxes or drums. In soft ground, heavy timber or rock slabs shall be placed beneath the mortars to prevent their sinking or being driven into the ground during firing. **

c. In damp ground, a weather-resistant bag shall be placed under the bottom of the mortar prior to placement in the ground to protect the mortar against moisture. **

d. Weather-resistant bags shall be placed over the open end of the mortar in damp weather to keep moisture from accumulating on the inside surface of the mortar. **

e. Sand bags, dirt boxes, or other suitable protection shall be placed around the mortar to protect the operator from ground bursts. This requirement shall not apply to the down-range side of the discharge site. **

f. Mortars shall be inspected before the first shells are loaded to be certain that foreign matter has not accumulated in the bottom of the mortar. **

g. Special set-ups may require the use of flame-resistant tarpaulins. They shall meet the requirements of NFPA 701. **

h. Metal mortars shall be deemed acceptable for use with all shells. Paper mortars shall only be used for discharge of single and double break shells. A 30-second cooling period shall be allowed between firing and reloading of paper mortars. **

i. A cleaning tool shall be provided for cleaning debris out of the mortars between firing. **

Site Location

The intent of this section is to provide guidance for clearances upon which the fire official shall base its approval for outdoor fireworks display site. **Where added safety precautions have been taken, or particularly favorable conditions exist, the fire official may decrease the recommended separation distances as deemed appropriate. When unusual or safety threatening conditions exist, the fire official may increase the minimum separation distance as deemed necessary.**

Shell Size	Minimum Radius of Outdoor Display Site of Fireworks
3 in. (76 mm)	300 ft.
4 in. (102 mm)	400 ft.
5 in. (127 mm)	500 ft.
6 in. (152 mm)	600 ft.
7 in. (178 mm)	700 ft.
8 in. (203 mm)	800 ft.
10 in. (254 mm)	1000 ft.
12 in. (305 mm)	1200 ft.

The areas selected for the discharge site, spectator viewing area, parking areas and the potential landing area shall be inspected and approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

Discharge Site

The area selected for the discharge of aerial shells shall be located so that the trajectory of the shells will not come within 25 feet of any overhead object.

a. Ground display pieces shall be located at a minimum distance of 100 feet from spectator viewing areas and parking areas. Exception: for moveable ground pieces, such as wheels, this minimum distance shall be increased to 150 feet. **

b. Mortars shall be separate from spectator viewing areas, parking areas, storage of hazardous materials and from residential occupancies by the minimum distances specified on the above table or as approved by the Fire Marshal. **

c. Fireworks shall not be discharged within 100 feet of any tent or canvas shelter. **

Potential Landing Area

The potential landing area shall be a large, clear open area acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

a. Spectators, vehicles, or any readily combustible materials shall not be located within the potential landing area during the display. **

b. The potential landing area shall be approved by the Fire Marshal. **

Operation of the Display

The sponsor of the display shall provide adequate fire protection for the display as required by the authority having jurisdiction.

a. The sponsor shall consult with the authority having jurisdiction to determine the level of fire protection required. **

b. Monitors whose sole duty shall be the enforcement of crowd control shall be located around the display area by the sponsor. The authority having jurisdiction shall determine the number of monitors needed and their placement. **

c. If, in the opinion of the authority having jurisdiction or the display operator, lack of crowd control should pose a danger, the display shall be immediately discontinued until such time as the situation is corrected. **

d. If, at any time, high winds or inclement weather prevail, such that in the opinion of either the authority having jurisdiction or the display operator, a definite danger exists, the public display shall be postponed until weather conditions improve to an acceptable level. **

e. Display operators and assistants shall use only flashlights or electric lighting for artificial illumination. **

f. No smoking or open flames shall be allowed in the fireworks/pyrotechnics storage area as long as explosives are present. Signs to this effect shall be conspicuously posted. **

g. Fireworks/pyrotechnics shall be inspected by the fire official prior to the event, and a final "ok-to-fire" shall be ordered by the Fire Marshal before the display commences. **

Operator Qualifications

Public display operators shall be licensed or approved in accordance with all applicable state, county, or municipal laws.

a. All operators shall be at least 21 years old. Assistants shall be at least 18 years old.

b. An adequate number of operators, assistants, and monitors shall be on hand to conduct the display.

c. No person shall handle or be involved in the firing of fireworks/pyrotechnics while under the influence of any controlled substance which could adversely affect judgment, movements or stability.

Any fireworks/pyrotechnics that remain un-fired after the display is concluded shall be immediately disposed of in a safe manner for the particular type of fireworks/pyrotechnics remaining. The Chief of the Fire Marshal's Office shall seize, take, remove, or cause to be removed at the expense of the owner all stocks of fireworks/pyrotechnics stored or held in violation of this article. No permit issued shall be transferable. The permit will be valid only on the days indicated and only during the times indicated.

The preceding regulations are necessary to ensure life safety and property safety for the citizens and visitors of the County of Goochland.

Grass in the shooting area must be mowed to a height no greater than two inches prior to set up of equipment.