

Fireworks Displays in the unincorporated areas of Placer County are executed by licensed professional pyrotechnic companies only

Completing a Fireworks Display Sponsor's Application or a Permit Application

Congratulations on your decision to have a fireworks display. Placer County staff and public safety agencies will work with both the sponsor of a display and with the contracted pyrotechnic company to ensure that the display will be safe, legal and executed in a manner that respects the rights and legitimate concerns of all citizens of the County. Anyone or any organization contemplating a display should become familiar with the application and approval requirements we have set out, and understand that whereas some of these are legal requirements, all are meant to ensure public safety and to protect life, property and the environment. In addition to addressing requests of both the sponsor and the pyrotechnic company, we will also ensure that the reasonable desires of any resident of Placer County who may be or feel inconvenienced by the display are considered and addressed within the limits of the law and the Placer County fireworks display ordinance.

The two-part permit application process (one for the sponsor and one for the pyrotechnic company) is straightforward and conforms to the timeline outlined in County Ordinance 5352-B.

For Fireworks Displays, the Placer County Director of Risk Management retains ultimate authority and responsibility, but authority for management and execution of this program has been delegated to the Office of Emergency Services (OES).

PART 1 – Actions for the SPONSOR

Contract a state-licensed pyrotechnic company to conduct the actual fireworks display. Please note that site security, if required, and notification of the public are two specific responsibilities of the Sponsor and not the pyrotechnic company.

In coordination with the pyrotechnic company, the Sponsor conducts a site survey to determine the type and number of specific fireworks, time and length of the display, safety requirements, site security considerations, etc. Among other things, the pyrotechnic company will provide you with the details of the specific fireworks, how much area is required, time limits, and any ancillary permits required (e.g., Coast Guard permit if Display is on Lake Tahoe).

At least 30 days prior to the event:

Submit the *Fireworks Display Sponsor's Application* to the Placer County OES with the \$300 permit fee. Permit fees are waived if the display meets certain non-profit, charitable organization or public entity requirements as outlined in the Ordinance.

The local fire department, in consultation with OES determines whether or not a security plan for any part of the display is required and, if so, will direct the sponsor to complete and forward it to OES for inclusion in the application. The application (and any additional required plans or permits) is reviewed by County Staff and all other impacted agencies/departments (e.g., CHP) which do so in such a manner that ensures adequate time for adjustments yet still enables the display to proceed on schedule.

Final approval of the Display is contingent upon approval of both the *Sponsor's Display Application* and your pyrotechnic company's *Fireworks Display Permit Application* as explained below.

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PART 2 –Actions for the PYROTECHNIC COMPANY

Upon being contracted to conduct a fireworks display:

With the Sponsor, conduct site survey and determine the type and number of specific fireworks, time and length of the display, safety requirements, site security concerns, etc.

Gather all appropriate information and permits (Coast Guard, FAA, etc.) needed to complete the *Fireworks Display Permit Application* and meet with the local fire department for its approval of all fire and life safety issues.

At least 30 days prior to the event, submit the *Fireworks Display Permit Application* to OES. Application may be submitted with that of the Sponsor if so desired. However, if it is not, please be aware that the actual permit will be issued only after both the Sponsor’s permit application and the *Fireworks Display Permit Application* have been approved.

PART 3 – Actions for the PLACER COUNTY STAFF

OES will ensure that all affected or potentially affected County and non-County agencies such as the Sheriff’s Office, Public Information Office, Public Works, Animal Services, County Executive’s Office, CHP, etc., are given the opportunity to review the application. If necessary, OES will arrange and facilitate a hearing to which the Sponsor and the Pyrotechnic Company are invited to discuss any issues or objections

Any substantiated concerns or objections must be corrected and verified by the County in order to ultimately obtain approval. Once any questions or concerns are addressed, mitigated and verified, the Director Of Risk Management approves the application. The County will work diligently with both sponsors and pyrotechnic companies and make every reasonable effort to ensure success in gaining application approval.

What to do if an application in total or any aspect of a proposed Display is denied for which an appeal is to be made.

Anyone or any organization/entity being denied a permit, or being denied permission to execute a portion of the display for any reason considered by the Sponsor or the pyrotechnic company to be unreasonable will be given the opportunity to appeal to the Placer County Board of Supervisors, in person or in writing.

See Section 9.33.090 of Placer County Ordinance No. 5352-B concerning public fireworks displays for exact details as to how to proceed with an appeal.

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