

**Arvada Fire Protection District**  
**Fire Marshal's Office**  
Administrative Interpretation

<b>Number</b>	2018-04		
<b>Subject</b>	Sky Lanterns		
<b>Code Reference</b>	2018 IFC Section 308.1.6.3		
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	City of Arvada, City of Wheat Ridge Jefferson County		
<b>Effective Date</b>	12-11-18	<b>Issued By</b>	Steven Parker
<b>Revision Date</b>	05-05-21	<b>Revised By</b>	Steven Parker
<b>Approval Date</b>	12-11-18	<b>Approved By</b>	Steven Parker

**Purpose**

To provide guidance and code interpretation for the use of sky lanterns using an open flame.

**Scope**

This Administrative interpretation applies to the use of sky lanterns within the AFPD jurisdiction.

**Description of Issue**

Numerous questions arise annually regarding the use of sky lanterns and if/when they can be used. This interpretation serves as a guideline of information and requirements that need to be given to the person wanting to use them.

**Decision**

This requirement will apply to all jurisdictions within the AFPD. The use of sky lanterns can be done within the AFPD when the following conditions can be met:

1. A Sky Lantern Use permit shall be applied for through the AFPD and approved prior to the release. The permit application shall provide a site plan indicating where this is going to occur. The site plan shall include dimensions of the non-combustible area, how many sky lanterns will be released, the material of tethers, and the dimension of the tethers to be used.
2. All Sky Lanterns shall be tethered to an anchor point in which will be able to maintain the lanterns from being released into the sky.
3. The release shall be done in an area that is non-combustible.
4. The tethers shall not be longer than the shortest distance from the anchor point. (For example, if the shortest distance from the anchor point to a combustible is 30 feet, the tethers shall not exceed 30 feet in length).

---

Sky Lantern Use Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Arvada Fire Protection District**  
**Fire Marshal's Office**  
Administrative Interpretation

5. This activity shall not take place within 50 feet of any structure.
6. Sky Lanterns shall not be released on Red Flag Warning Days or when the ground winds or wind gusts exceed 10 miles per hour.
7. This is not allowed during a Stage 1 Fire Restriction or Stage 2 Fire Ban.
8. This activity shall be constantly attended by an adult until the open flames are fully extinguished.
9. An approved means of extinguishment shall be available, examples would be a fire extinguisher or a bucket of water.
10. You shall contact Jeffcom Dispatch at 303-980-3493 prior to the release of the lanterns and inform them of the activity taking place including the anticipated start and end times.
11. The signature of the property owner and onsite contact attest that all of the requirements can and will be adhered to.
12. If a problem should arise, call 911.

This correspondence can be done via email with the "applicant", and they need to confirm that they can and will meet the requirements provided to them utilizing the attached form.

---

Sky Lantern Use Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

**ARVADA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE  
7903 Allison Way Arvada CO 80005  
303-424-3012**

**SKY LANTERN USE APPLICATION**

Applicant/Onsite Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Location/Property: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Sky Lantern Release: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Onsite Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF SKY LANTERNS**

1. Provide a site plan indicating where this is going to occur. The site plan shall include dimensions of the non-combustible area, how many sky lanterns will be released, the material of tethers, and the dimension of the tethers to be used.
2. All Sky Lanterns shall be tethered to an anchor point in which will be able to maintain the lanterns from being released into the sky.
3. The release shall be done in an area that is non-combustible.
4. The tethers shall not be longer than the shortest distance from the anchor point. (For example, if the shortest distance from the anchor point to a combustible is 30 feet, the tethers shall not exceed 30 feet in length).
5. This activity shall not take place within 50 feet of any structure.
6. Sky Lanterns shall not be released on Red Flag Warning Days or when the ground winds or wind gusts exceed 10 miles per hour.
7. This is not allowed during a Stage 1 Fire Restriction or Stage 2 Fire Ban.
8. This activity shall be constantly attended by an adult until the open flames are fully extinguished.
9. An approved means of extinguishment shall be available, examples would be a fire extinguisher or a bucket of water.
10. You shall contact Jeffcom Dispatch at 303-980-3493 prior to the release of the lanterns and inform them of the activity taking place including the anticipated start and end times.
11. The signature of the property owner and onsite contact attest that all of the requirements can and will be adhered to.
12. **If a problem should arise, call 911.**

---

Sky Lantern Use Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_