



Chambers County Fire Marshal's Office

Fireworks Display Permitting



A permit is required from Chambers County to conduct a fireworks or pyrotechnics display of Fireworks 1.3G, or a display of Fireworks 1.3G or 1.4G before a proximate audience.

What Constitutes a Fireworks Display:

Chambers County Fire Code Section 202:

FIREWORKS DISPLAY. A presentation of fireworks for a public or private gathering.

Texas Occupations Code §2154.001:

"Indoor or proximate display" means a pyrotechnic display involving the ignition of Fireworks 1.3G or Fireworks 1.4G for public amusement where an audience is closer to the pyrotechnic devices than permitted by NFPA 1123 Code of Fireworks Display. The term does not include the use of Fireworks 1.4G by a retail consumer for private or personal amusement.

"Public display" means the igniting of Fireworks 1.3G for public or private amusement.

Type of Fireworks:

Texas Occupations Code §2154.001:

"Fireworks 1.3G" means a large fireworks device:

- (A) primarily designed to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation;
- and
- (B) classified as a 1.3G explosive by the department in 49 C.F.R. Part 173 (1996).

"Fireworks 1.4G" means a small fireworks device:

- (A) primarily designed to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation;
- (B) that complies with the construction, labeling, and chemical composition requirements of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission in 16 C.F.R. Part 1507 (1996), or the most recently adopted version of that rule; and
- (C) that is classified by the department in 49 C.F.R. Part 173 (1996).

NOTE: Fireworks 1.3G are commonly referred to as “professional grade” fireworks (requiring a state license to purchase and use), while Fireworks 1.4G are “consumer grade” fireworks (typically available at fireworks stands).

State Licensing Requirements:

Texas Occupations Code §2154.154.

Pyrotechnic Operator's License (a) A person must be a licensed pyrotechnic operator if the person assembles, conducts, and supervises public fireworks displays using Fireworks 1.3G.

Texas Occupations Code §2154.155.

Pyrotechnic Special Effects Operator's License (a) A person must be a licensed pyrotechnic special effects operator if the person assembles, conducts, and supervises proximate displays using Fireworks 1.3G or Fireworks 1.4G as defined in NFPA 1126 Standard of the Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience.

NOTE: A person does not have to be state licensed or obtain a county permit to conduct a fireworks display using *consumer grade* Fireworks 1.4G, IF the separation distances between the display and audience are *greater* than that required by NFPA 1123. Contact the Chambers County Fire Marshal if assistance is needed in determining the allowed separation distances.

Excerpt from NFPA 1123 (does not include ALL required distances and specifications):

<u>Mortar Size</u>	<u>Minimum Diameter of Site</u>
less than 1"	150'
1.5"	210'
2"	280'
2.5"	350'
3"	420'
4"	560'
5"	700'
6"	840'
7"	980'
8"	1120'
10"	1400'
12"	1680'

Steps to Obtain a County Permit:

1. Secure necessary state licensing, if applicable;
2. Applicant/operator must be at least 21 years of age;
3. Complete a "Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Display Permit Application" for Chambers County online via www.mgoconnect.org . Include the "Fireworks or Pyrotechnic Display Information Sheet", a site diagram and other information as specified in the application;
4. Submit evidence of a general liability insurance policy in an amount of not less than \$500,000, consistent with Texas Occupations Code §2154.205;
5. Pay a \$50 permit fee to Chambers County, payable via the online permitting portal or at the Permitting Office, 201 Airport Rd., Anahuac, TX. Phone: 409-267-2700.

State Resources:

To obtain required licenses to conduct fireworks displays or to sell fireworks, please contact the State Fire Marshal at 512-676-6800.