



Sky Lanterns Safety

Sky lanterns have become increasingly popular as a way to celebrate. However, they pose a serious fire safety hazard and their use is prohibited by National Fire Protection Association code requirements.

- » The lanterns are made of oiled rice paper with a bamboo frame, materials that can easily catch on fire.
- » A candle or wax fuel cell is used with the device.
- » The lit flame heats the inside of the lantern, causing it to rise into the air.
- » Once lit and airborne, it can travel over a mile in distance.
- » Wind can affect the sky lantern, blowing the sides, forcing the hot air out and sending the flaming lantern back to the ground.
- » These lanterns have the potential to cause fires.
- » A flaming lantern can drop onto a rooftop, field, trees or power lines before the flame is fully extinguished.
- » A destructive fire can result when a flaming lantern reaches the ground during dry conditions.
- » Sky lanterns should not be used under any circumstances.

Recent fires

A **sky lantern** landed on the canopy of a country club, igniting the canopy.

Two sky lanterns landed in forested land impacting valuable wildfire firefighting resources.

Red Wing Fire Department

651-388-7141



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169