



Coastside Fire Protection District
Fire Prevention Bureau
Standard Detail & Specification Manual

Section:	Public Information	Effective:	June 6, 2006
Title:	Model Rocketry	Revised:	May 7, 2019
Number:	PI - 004	Approved:	<i>Gary Silva</i>

Purpose:

This Standard Detail and Specification will identify the requirements and the safety procedures to be used when using model Rockets within the boundaries of the Coastside Fire Protection District.

Definitions:

Model Rocket: Any toy or educational device, which weighs not more than 500 grams, including the engine and any payload, that is propelled by model rocket engines.

Model Rocket Engine: A commercially manufactured, non-reusable rocket propulsion device which is constructed of a non-metallic casing and solid propellant, wherein all of the ingredients are self-contained so as to not require mixing or handling by the user and which have design and construction characteristics determined by the State Fire Marshal to provide a reasonable degree of safety to the user. For the purpose of this Standard, model rocket engines shall not contain more than 62.5 grams of propellant.

Authorization:

- No model rocket user shall launch any model rocket from any site without first securing clearance from the Fire District.
- It shall be the responsibility of the model rocket user to secure permission of the owner of public or private lands when such land is intended to be used to launch model rockets.
- The permitted user shall be responsible for the safety of all other spectators and other persons connected with launching model rockets.
- The launch site shall be located outdoors in a cleared area free of power lines or vegetation.
- All model rockets shall be launched from the center of the launch site.



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Launch Site Safety:

- Model Rockets shall be launched from a stable launch device that provides rigid guidance until it has reached a speed adequate to ensure a safe flight path.
- To prevent accidental eye injury, the launcher shall be placed so the end of the rod is above eye level, or the end shall be capped when approaching it.
- The launcher shall have blast deflection devices to prevent motor exhaust from hitting the ground directly.
- The area adjacent to the launch area shall be cleared of combustible vegetation.
- Launching system shall be remote controlled and electrically operated and have a launching switch that will return to the “off” position.
- All persons shall remain 30 feet from the launching device and be provided with an audible 5-second countdown pending launch.
- Misfires shall not be approached until a minimum of a one-minute time has elapsed.
- Launches shall be discontinued when winds exceed 20 mph.
- Launch angles shall be within 30 degrees of vertical.
- Launches shall only occur during daylight hours.