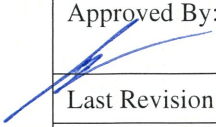




Red, White & Blue Fire District Standard Operating Policy

Sky Lanterns

SOP 409	
Approved By: 	Date: <i>9/9/2025</i>
Last Revision:	09/2025
Next Revision:	09/2028
FESSAM: 5A.1, 5A.2, 5B.1, 5B.4	

PURPOSE:

This policy establishes the District's position on using Sky Lanterns or similar devices constructed of a paper shell on a lightweight frame containing a fuel cell.

DEFINITION:

Sky Lantern: These are devices that resemble small hot air balloons. They are also known as Kongming lanterns, wish lanterns, Chinese lanterns, sky candles, or aerial luminaries. These devices are constructed of a paper shell placed over a lightweight frame with a fuel cell. The fuel cell is typically a waxy flammable material or a small tea light-type candle.

POLICY:

Sky lanterns are known to travel great distances from where they are released. This poses a serious fire and safety hazard because of their ability to start unintended fires in our heavily wooded community. Such fires may go unnoticed, posing a greater risk to our Upper Blue Basin community. Therefore, the Fire District strictly prohibits the use of Sky Lanterns.

CODE SECTIONS:

2024 IFC, as amended, **308.1.7 Sky lanterns.** A person shall not release or cause to be released an untethered sky lantern unless otherwise approved by the *Fire Code Official*.