

Sky Lanterns – Chinese Lanterns

The popularity of sky lanterns has soared in recent years, used in celebrations and ceremonial events. They are made of rice paper with a wax fuel cell. They are essentially miniature hot air balloons without a pilot to control the flight path or control the open flame.

Sky lanterns produce a beautiful visual effect, but are as dangerous as they are beautiful. The path of sky lanterns is unpredictable. They can travel for miles, rise as high as a mile, and can remain aloft for up to 20 minutes. The open flame is sizable and may not extinguish for more than 10 minutes. They can cross property lines, land on roofs or combustible vegetation, fly into power lines, and create a hazard to aircraft. When they reach the ground, they retain sufficient heat to ignite combustible materials.

Sky lanterns pose a serious fire threat and are capable of causing significant damage.

The use of sky lanterns is prohibited in 30 states in the U.S. They are banned in the Town of Dennis. Anyone using these could face criminal charges and fines and be responsible for any property damage caused and associated fire suppression costs.



Sky Lantern

