

CITY OF WORCESTER

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division 50 Skyline Drive Worcester, MA 01605-2898

Paul J. Moosey, P.E.
Commissioner



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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

POLICY & PROCEDURE

FIRE WORKS REQUIREMENTS

BELL POND

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I PURPOSE

To outline the criteria and procedures for use of Bell Pond for the shooting of fireworks in the City of Worcester under management and control of the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.

II POLICY

1. This policy shall cover Bell Pond under the jurisdiction of the City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.
2. The use of fireworks requires a set policy approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission.
3. The use of fireworks within public parks also requires approval from the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service.
4. Permits for use of Bell Pond must be requested from the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division. This application must be submitted, reviewed and approved by the Department a minimum of three months before the event is to take place.
5. The Commissioner of the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division or his/her designee shall determine if size, fee structure or use of facility requires submission of said event to the Parks & Recreation Commission. The applicant shall be responsible to attend said Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to address any and all concerns of the Department and Commission (if required).
6. The Parks & Recreation Commission and/or the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division or his/her designee shall recommend modifications for the event based on public comment, the requirements of the Worcester Fire Department, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service. These modifications shall be included in the final permit.

III PROCEDURE

- 1) All fireworks events shall follow all of the Rules & Regulations of the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division as stated within the Permit Application.
- 2) All fireworks events shall follow all of the Rules & Regulations of the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service.
- 3) All fireworks events shall complete any and all required permits of the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service. These approved permits must be submitted to the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division before final approval is granted.
- 4) All costs (labor, materials & services) required by the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division, the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service are the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or fireworks company.
- 5) All fireworks events will be required to adhere to the attached Approval of Natural Barriers as received by the City of Worcester after an inspection by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Department of Fire Service on June 5, 2015. This letter may be updated in the future by the Worcester Fire Department and/or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service as necessary. Any and all updated requirements are the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company.
- 6) All fireworks events will be required to secure all areas identified on the attached map and as required by the Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service. The cost of this requirement will be the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company.
- 7) Applicants shall complete as required by the Department all necessary sections of said permit.
- 8) The Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks; Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division will provide no guarantee of event approval until all necessary paper work (as required by the Department) is completed and approved.
- 9) The Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division reserves the right to require changes & additional submissions for any event and as required by the Department, Worcester Fire Department and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Service.
- 10) The Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division will provide no guarantee of access to Bell Hill in inclement weather or after severe storms. This includes rain, wind, ice, snow or other conditions outside of the direct control of the Department. The Department will address the needs of the event as best as possible but final responsibility for insuring access will be the duty of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company.

- 11) Applicants must understand that access to the top of Bell Hill is on an unimproved drive (dirt roadway), that has a substantial grade, that is accessible for large equipment and is located through a ten foot opening on Belmont Street. This roadway is not maintained regularly and all vehicular access to the site must use four wheel drive equipment. Access by rear wheel drive or front wheel drive vehicles is not advisable and may require tire chains or other equipment as necessary climb this roadway. It will be the responsibility of the requesting individual, organization, company and/or Fireworks Company to insure that vehicular access is available to the top of Bell Pond. It is suggested that requesting individuals, organizations, company and/or Fireworks Company's review the site before the event date.
- 12) The Commissioner or his/her designee of the Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division shall ensure this policy is adhered to. He / She shall have final approval of all events.
- 13) All events shall be in compliance with the City's Human Rights Commission's Policy Statement (See Attached).
- 14) This policy/procedure may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Parks and Recreation Commission Approval Record

1. This policy was reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission on 11-19-15 and approved on 11-19-15, voted 4 - 0.
2. This policy was revised and reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission on 1-29-16 and approved on 1-28-16, voted 6-0.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the city to assure that every individual shall have equal access to and benefit from all public services, to protect every individual in the enjoyment and exercise of civil rights and to encourage and bring about mutual understanding and respect among all individuals of the city. It is clear that behavior which denies equal treatment to any of our citizens as a result of their race, color, religious creed, status, sexual orientation, disability or source of income undermines civil order and deprives person of the benefits of a free and open society. Nothing in this ordinance shall be constructed as supporting or advocating any particular religious view or lifestyle. To the contrary, it is the intention of this ordinance that all persons be treated fairly and equally and it is the expressed intent of this ordinance to bring about the elimination of prejudice, intolerance, bigotry, discrimination and the disorder occasioned thereby.

Worcester Display site

Legend

- 420 6" shells
- 560 8" shells
- Bell Pond
- launch site

Bell Pond

launch site

Cage St

Merrifield St

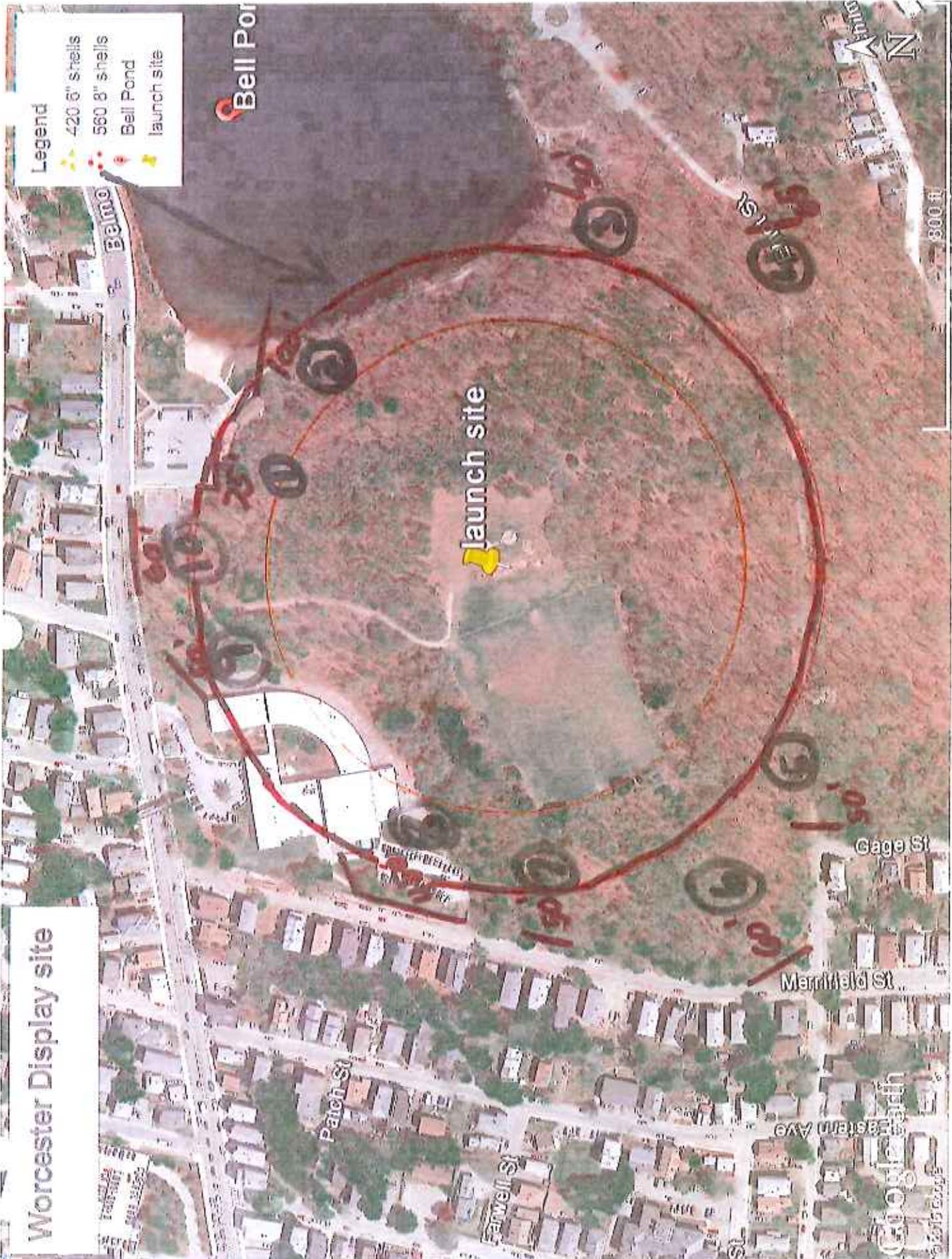
Paich St

Fairwell St

ESTERD AVE

1500 Colburn St

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GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR

DANIEL BENNETT
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*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
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STEPHEN D. COAN
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Approval of Natural Barriers

527 CMR 1:00, 65.2

Date of Inspection/Approval, 6/05/15

Location of Display: Bell Hill, Worcester Ma.

Type of Natural Barrier: Wooded area encompassing 360 degrees around Bell Hill.
Natural Barrier letter is given with the following provisions: School at 170 Belmont St. will be closed and uninhabited. The school parking lot on Merrifield St. will be closed or snow fence will be erected across parking lot at the 560' radius. Snow fence will be erected at the 560' radius in the parking lot on Belmont St. extending to the water. All paths or trails leading to the top of Bell Hill will have adequate barrier to prevent spectators from entering. Access Rd. on the west side of the pond will be closed at the south end. Elliot St. will be closed at the 560' radius. Natural barrier is approved for a Max. shell of 8".

This letter constitutes approval of natural barriers as provided in 527 CMR 1:00, 65.2 This approval is granted subject to the following terms and limitations.

1. It is the responsibility of the competent operator (CO) to insure that the distance from the mortars to the outer edge of the natural barriers is no less than the distance specified in NFPA 1123(2010 Edition) Table 5.1.3.1
2. It is the responsibility of the competent operator (CO) to insure that all areas not protected by an approved natural barrier are protected as provided in 527 CMR 1:00, 65.2.
3. It is the responsibility of the competent operator (CO) to insure that any openings in the natural barrier e.g.: paths, trails etc. are secured as provided in 527 CMR 1:00,65.2.
4. It is the responsibility of the competent operator (CO) to insure that adequate provisions are made so that no watercraft may enter the restricted area specified in NFPA 1123(2010 Edition) Table 5.1.3.1
5. This letter shall be deemed to be part of any Permit Issued for the display of fireworks at the location specified above. 527 CMR 1:00, 65.2.
6. This approval does not constitute a waiver of any of the requirements or responsibilities specified in Chapter 148 or 527 CMR 1:00, 65.2.

Approved:

John F. Araujo
Compliance Officer
Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit

*Administrative Services • Division of Fire Safety
Hazardous Materials Response • Massachusetts Firefighting Academy*