



SAN DIEGO FIRE-RESCUE

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION

MODEL ROCKETRY

The Fire-Rescue Department Community Risk Reduction Division (CRRD) wants model rocketry to be a safe and rewarding experience. The California State Fire Marshal regulates the use of model rockets under the California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 6. The code gives the local fire department authority to grant a permit to use model rockets within its jurisdiction. It is illegal to launch a model rocket without a permit from the local fire department.

The City of San Diego is fortunate to have Fiesta Island at Mission Bay Park as the designated area for the public use of model rockets. The CRRD also issues a permit for model rocket programs as part of school curriculums. This permit is issued to the school and they are for use by the school only.

PERMITS FOR USE OF MODEL ROCKETS

A [permit application](https://www.sandiego.gov/fire/services/permits/events) for model rockets is available online at <https://www.sandiego.gov/fire/services/permits/events>. The completed application can be emailed to sdfdevents@sandiego.gov. The permit will be returned to the applicant after the permit is processed. There is no charge for the permit and it is valid for one year.

Fiesta Island is under the direct management of the Parks and Recreation Department. A permit is required by that department to use the island for any public use, including the launching of model rockets. The Parks and Recreation Department may be contacted at (619) 525-8213.

There is a park use fee and there may also be additional insurance requirements. The permit from the CRRD is NOT valid for the use of Fiesta Island without a valid permit from the Parks and Recreation Department.

An alternative to obtaining a permit for private use of model rockets on Fiesta Island is membership in the San Diego Model Rocket and High-Power Rocketry Club. The club has all necessary permits from both the CRRD and the Parks and Recreation Department. The club is permitted to use the island an average of two times per month, generally on Saturday or Sunday, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The club may be contacted through their website at <https://www.nar.org/site/section317/> for information on how to join the club.

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