



SKY LANTERN SAFETY

Sky lanterns, floating devices also known as Chinese Kongming lanterns or wish lanterns, are a popular tool for celebrations and memorials. However, did you know they pose a serious fire risk?

Sky lanterns are typically made from oiled rice paper and a bamboo frame, materials that can easily catch fire.

They can:

- reach heights of more than 1,000 feet.
- last about six to 20 minutes.
- travel between two and five miles from the original launch site.
- land on rooftops, in a field, or in a tree before the candle is extinguished.

Sky lanterns discharged in South Carolina must be attached to an object on the ground (tethered), according to the South Carolina Fire Code, which is enforced by local, county, and state fire officials.

FACTS:

Sky lanterns set off a wildfire that burned more than 800 acres in Myrtle Beach, SC in 2011.

You are responsible for any damages caused by any sky lantern that you release.