

Fireworks during COVID-19 Advice

Fireworks are widely used to conclude major events or mark significant occasions, such as the commencement of the New Year.

Their use draws crowds both to the event itself as well as vantage points distant from the event to watch the spectacle.

It is important for event and fireworks organisers to be aware that fireworks displays can create a spontaneous event at a vantage point that may be beyond the control of the event organiser.

[Emergency Management \(Public Activities No.10\)\(COVID-19\) Direction 2020](#) requires public gatherings over 1,000 people to have an SA Health approved [COVID Management Plan](#) in place to allow an event to proceed. For events occurring in a single defined place, the application of this requirement is clear.

For an event that may result in crowds over 1,000 people in a place beyond the control of the event organiser (e.g. at a vantage point in the hills overlooking the city), the application of this requirement is less clear.

When event organisers are determining if they require a COVID Management Plan, they should consider if they can reasonably foresee that the fireworks event would attract crowds above 1,000 people. This may be immediately adjacent to an event (e.g. outside the venue or fenced area of an event) or more distant (e.g. a vantage point).

To reduce the likelihood of a fireworks display creating this issue and triggering the requirement for a COVID Management Plan, organisers should consider (consistent with existing legislative requirements governing fireworks displays):

- > Limiting the duration of the display.
- > Limiting the frequency of displays.
- > Limiting the promotion of the display.
- > Conducting the display in areas with no close public access.
- > Avoid providing attractions or facilities close to the display such as live music or food and beverage providers not normally present in the area.
- > Liaising with SA Police and Local Councils advising of the display to allow management of known vantage points including limiting crowd numbers and promotion of COVID safe practices.

For more information

SA COVID-19 Information line 1800 253 787
sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVID2019
covid-19.sa.gov.au

Health Regulation and Protection
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