

ROCKET LAUNCH



Safety considerations should be at the top of everyone's list when dealing with projectiles that, if misused, could cause serious injury or damage.

Preparation and Recommendations (Scouting America)

- Only use certified, commercially made rocket motors appropriate for the rocket, and make sure that nobody tampers with or modifies them.
- Find out if there are any rules and regulations regarding the type, size, and launching of rockets within your community.
- Only use a manufacturer-approved launch rod or tower.
- Do not use model rockets for shooting a payload, firing at a target, or launching into clouds or near aircraft.
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Launch Site Setup (VASSC)

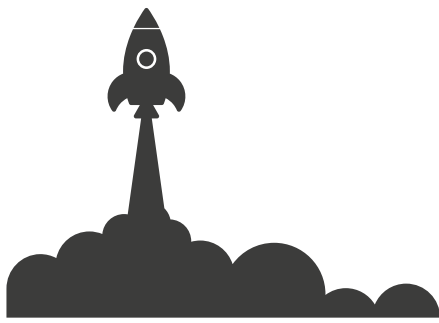
- Closely monitor the weather and forecast on Launch Day.
 - Wind speed should be no greater than 20 mph.
 - Rockets can be launched in light rain/drizzle.
- Choose an open space outdoors away from grass to prevent the risk of a grass fire.
 - Darlington Stadium parking lot is routinely used for VASSC rocket launches.
 - Note any areas where rocket could get caught (trees, power lines, fences, etc.)
- Provide eye protection (safety goggles/safety glasses) for rocketeers during launch.
 - Eye wear protects rocketeer's eyes from being injured by rocket exhaust or nearby objects blown through the air by the launch.

Launch Line

- Establish a minimum safe distance of 15 feet for rocket launch.
 - Set up orange cones to denote the Launch Line – separating the Launch Area (space between Launch Line and Launch Pad) and Observation Zone (safe location for anyone not actively launching a rocket).
- Only a small number of rocketeers and one adult (if necessary) are allowed on the Launch Line at a time. Everyone else **MUST** remain **BEHIND** Launch Line and in the Observation Zone, preferably seated.

Launch Area

- Secure a safety plate (blast deflector) and launch rod on an approved base tower (spaced safely apart, if launching more than one rocket at a time).
 - Launch Rod should point within 30 degrees of vertical to ensure the rocket flies nearly straight up and is not at risk of a collision.
 - Fully extend trigger cables toward the Launch Line (cones).
 - No one is allowed in the Launch Area unless accompanied by a Rocket Master.



ROCKET LAUNCH



Safety Briefing (with rocketeers/guests at Museum prior to departure)

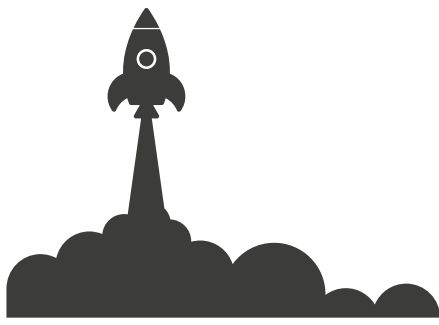
The following safety information should be clearly presented to all rocketeers, guests, and observers prior to departure for the Launch Site.

- Clearly identify the **Rocket Master(s)** for the launch.
 - All launches and rocket recovery will be directed by the RocketMaster.
 - Scout Leaders are encouraged to actively enforce directions with Scouts and guests.
- Upon arrival, park across the street in the **Hampton City Library parking lot**.
- Walk across Kecoughtan Road to the **Darlington Stadium parking lot**.
- **Orange cones will be placed in a line (Launch Line) between the Launch Pad and Observation Zone.** Rocketeers and observers must stay out of the Launch Area at all times.
- **Do NOT walk in the area between Launch Line and Launch Pad.**
 - Only a small group of scouts will be allowed on the Launch Line at one time.
 - Scouts aged 10 and under must have an adult assist them with the launch.
 - **Anyone not on the Launch Line will be asked to remain seated or standing still in the Observation Zone.**
- **Running is not allowed anywhere at a rocket launch.**
- A **countdown** will be used to make sure everyone knows the launch is about to happen.
- **Launches and rocket recovery will be directed by Rocket Master.**
 - Designate 1-2 adults or senior scouts for rocket retrieval.
 - Once rocket launches, everyone **remain in place** until Rocket Master gives directions for the next group of rocketeers to approach the Launch Line.



PARKING

HAMPTON CITY LIBRARY
4207 VICTORIA BLVD.
HAMPTON, VA



ROCKET LAUNCH



Reminders immediately prior to launch.

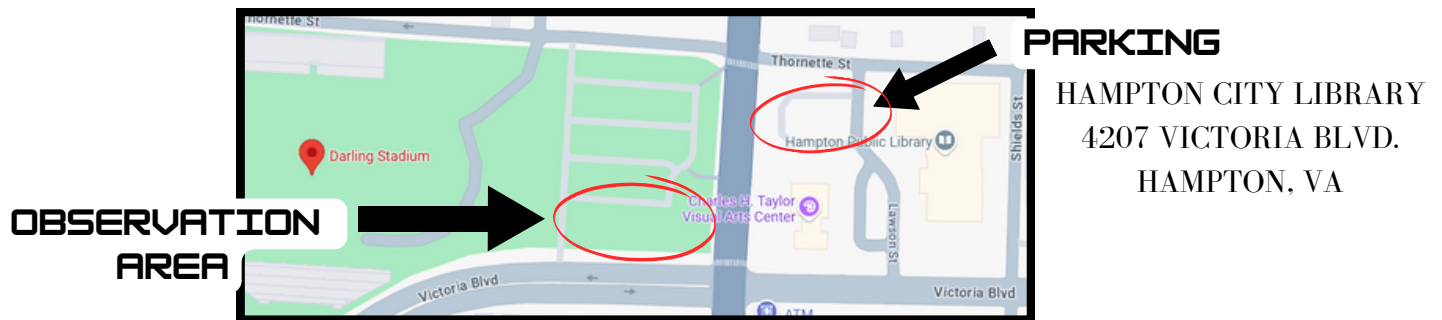
- Rocket launch and recovery will be directed by the Rocket Master. Listen to all directions from the Rocket Master.
- **Do not leave the Observation area**, until the previous rocketeer has returned from the Launch Line. **Stand still or sit in the Observation Area at all times.**
- **Do not enter the Launch Zone without an adult**, Rocket Master, or specific directions from the Rocket Master.
- When you approach the Launch Line, **put on safety glasses** and wait to be invited to place rocket on your Launch Pad.
- After returning to the Launch Line, insert the safety pin, and test connectivity by pushing round button (look for illuminated light).
- **Listen carefully for the countdown** before depressing trigger (square button) while holding safety button (round button).
- After the launch, release both buttons and place your trigger mechanism on the ground. Wait for Rocket Master's directions.
 - If rocket misfires, remove safety pin, lay down launch controller; wait for Rocket Master.
- **Return to Observation Zone.** Rocket will be returned to you.
- **Only designated adults or senior-level scouts will be permitted to retrieve rockets** during large group launches.
 - Do not attempt to recover rockets from power lines, tall trees, or other potentially dangerous areas.



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Safety Reminders

- Listen to all directions from the Rocket Master.
- Do not walk through the Launch site (Darlington Stadium Parking Lot).
- Stand or sit in the Observation Area while waiting. No running around.
- Rockets will be retrieved for you....do NOT chase after falling rockets.
- Wait in Observation Area for rockets to be returned.



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