



Artillery Demonstration Checklist

Park: _____

Date: _____

Weapons Demonstrated: _____

Safety Supervisor(s): _____

Safety Assistant(s): _____

(include specific roles & duties assigned to each)

Before

- The gun has been inspected, inside and out. Bore is clean of foreign material.
- The *Artillery Inspection Checklist* has been completed for each weapon to be used during the demonstration.
- The carriage is in good condition and all keys are secure.
- The accessory equipment is in good condition (sponge head in good repair, rammer and sponge head secure on staff, etc.).
- Sponge head fits bore snugly, but not too tight.
- Ammunition boxes, haversacks, etc., are clean and free of spilled powder.
- Ammunition is properly prepared, with only enough for the event or demonstration.
- All implements are in their correct place on the piece (not on the ground).
- All demonstrators are trained to react properly to a misfire or other unscheduled event.
- Misfire equipment is in place at the firing position.
- Cannon crews are required to perform firing and misfiring drills as part of the safety inspection.
- Required number of personnel is present to safely fire the piece.
- Additional staff or volunteers should always be present for interpretation and crowd control.
- Limber placement is at least seven yards distance from visitor's barricade.
- There are at least ten yards between the limber and the trail of the piece.
- The carriage is free to recoil if necessary so it won't buck or break carriage.
- The demonstration area is safe for the size of the audience and demonstration.
- The demonstration area is clearly defined and marked.
- Physical barriers between the visitors and the demonstration area are in place.
- Visitors have a good field of vision of the demonstration area.
- The wind conditions are not too strong for a safe demonstration.
- Conditions are not too dry as to risk a range fire from the muzzle blast.
- First Aid Kit and emergency communications are available.
- There are no open fires nearby (campfires, brush clearing, etc.).

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During

- Final review of misfire drill and accident procedures.
- All demonstrators have the responsibility to stop the demonstration if an unsafe situation develops.
- No bullets, musket balls, projectiles, or loading blocks will be carried AT ANY TIME during an event or demonstration.
- Sales of black powder are not permitted.
- Pyrodex or other synthetic black powders are not permitted in Florida Park Service events or demonstrations.
- Powder will only be carried in the form of cartridges/cannon rounds, and all cartridges/cannon rounds should be made prior to the event or demonstration.
- Unless otherwise specified for a specific event or demonstration, reenactors should not bring black powder or cartridges/cannon rounds to an event or demonstration. Appropriate supplies will be provided.

DEMONSTRATION AREA SAFETY:

- Alcoholic beverages will not be consumed during normal park operating hours. Individuals under the influence will be removed.
- In the event of a misfire or other unscheduled event the demonstrator reacts properly.
- If a weapon misfires, explain the misfire procedure to the visitors, and keep them at a safe distance until the weapon is discharged or rendered safe.
- Never allow loose powder in the event or demonstration area.
- To protect against flash burns, all demonstrators must wear long-sleeved, natural fiber or animal skin clothing.
- Before firing, warn the visitors of the loud noise, and caution visitors with hearing aids and small children to cover their ears.
- The demonstration area shall be safe for the size of the event of demonstration. **All events or demonstrations where weapons are fired will follow the *Primitive Weapons Range Diagram, Small Arms Range Diagram, Artillery Range Diagram or Opposing Troops Range Diagram* as appropriate.**
- Each unit commander is responsible for the conduct of all reenactors in the unit. (This includes women and children). The unit commander is responsible for making sure that the reenactors are aware of the safety rules and that they understand and abide by them.

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GENERAL ARTILLERY SAFETY:

- The crew is following the approved manual with each person is in their correct position during each portion of the drill.
 - The sponge is adequately damp, but not soaking wet.
 - The sponge head does not contact the ground at any time during the event or demonstration (to prevent grass, sand, etc. from sticking to it).
 - Gauntlets are not so stiff or heavy as to cause fumbling or other difficulty.
 - When quill primers are used; linstock and lantern are handled safely.
 - Torn or damaged small arms cartridges will not be used.
 - Multiple loading is not permitted.
 - All demonstrators must follow the *Table of Maximum Loads*.
 - FFFg (3F) and FFFFg (4F) powder is not permitted.
 - All events or demonstrations where weapons are fired will follow the the *Primitive Weapons Range Diagram, Small Arms Range Diagram, Artillery Range Diagram or Opposing Troops Range Diagram* as appropriate.**
 - For maximum safety, cannons should not be fired at a rate of more than once every 3 minutes (per cannon).
 - If attempts fail to correct a misfire, visitors will be removed from the demonstration area. Standard unloading procedures will then be followed.
- After**
- The demonstration area is policed for dropped equipment and smoldering residue.
 - At the end of the demonstration, the piece is wormed and then washed out and dried.
 - The sponge head is thoroughly rinsed out and dried.
 - All weapon, explosives, and accessory pieces are accounted for.
 - The piece and limber are secured and stored properly.
 - All remaining explosives are promptly returned to the proper storage facility.