



ILLINOIS

CONSUMER FIREWORKS

Specifically permitted fireworks

The following are not considered consumer fireworks and can be sold and used at all times: “snake or glow worm pellets; smoke devices; trick noisemakers known as ‘party poppers’, ‘booby traps’, ‘snappers’, ‘trick matches’, ‘cigarette loads’, and ‘auto burglar alarms’; sparklers; toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns” and other specified devices.

The state fire marshal maintains a list, updated annually, of approved consumer fireworks.

Specifically prohibited

Handheld fireworks, bottle rockets, firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, chasers, buzz bombs, helicopters, missiles, pin wheels, planes, and sky lanterns.

Display permit

Required. Apply to the local authorities at least 15 days before the display date. Site inspection by the local fire department required for approval of permit.

Insurance

Local authority may require.

Operator

Must successfully pass a Consumer Fireworks Safety training class approved by the State Fire Marshal on an annual basis. The class and test is given by the local authority. Local authority may require criminal background check.

Sale

Once an operator obtains a consumer fireworks display permit from the local authority, the operator may purchase approved consumer fireworks from a registered consumer fireworks retailer.

DISPLAY FIREWORKS

Display permit

Required. Apply to the local authorities at least 15 days before the display date. Site inspection by the local fire department required for approval of permit.

Insurance

Local authority may require not less than \$1,000,000. State requires all licensed pyrotechnic operators to be

employed by a licensed pyrotechnic distributor who carries \$1,000,000 general liability, \$1,000,000 products liability and Illinois Workers Compensation insurance. (Production companies, e.g. film, television, etc. companies, will need general commercial liability insurance of at least \$2,000,000.)

Operator

Among other requirements, the operator must be licensed by the State Fire Marshal, at least 21 years old, and employed by a licensed Pyrotechnic Distributor. Assistants, among other requirements, must be at least 18 years old, employed by the licensed pyrotechnic distributor or production company or insured, and registered with the State Fire Marshal.

MANUFACTURE, STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION

Storage of display fireworks must comply with ATF regulations (25 C.F.R. § 555) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources storage requirements. Storage of special effects, flame effects, and pyrotechnic services shall comply with NFPA 1126 as modified by state regulation, NFPA 160 as modified by state regulation, and NFPA 140. Safe plant location and storage areas specified in state law.

LICENSING

Pyrotechnic Distributor, \$500; Outdoor Professional Pyrotechnic Operator, \$100; Proximate Audience Pyrotechnic Operator (Outdoor and Indoor), \$300; Flame Effect Pyrotechnic Operator \$300; Limited Pyrotechnic Distributor (Political Subdivisions of the State Only) \$50

ENFORCING AUTHORITY

Office of the State Fire Marshal
Division of Fire Prevention
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62730-4219
217-785-4714; 217-785-0969
<http://www.sfm.illinois.gov/>

REFERENCES

225 Ill. Comp. Stat. 227/1 through 227/999; 425 Ill. Comp. Stat. 30/1 through 30/26; 425 Ill. Comp. Stat. 35/0.01 through 35/5; Ill. Admin. Code tit. 41, §§ 105.5 through 105.20; Ill. Admin. Code, tit. 41, §§ 230.10 through 230.290; Ill. Admin. Code, tit. 41 § 235.10 through 235.180; Office of the State Fire Marshal, Approved & Prohibited Consumer Fireworks and Unregulated Novelties (Mar. 23, 2015),
<http://www.sfm.illinois.gov/Portals/0/docs/Commercial/Pyro-Fireworks/ApprovedAndProhibitedFireworks.pdf>.

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