



University Park Fire Department  
698 Burnham Drive  
University Park, IL 60484  
Phone: 708-235-4821  
Fax: 708-534-4820

June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

To our Friends, Neighbors, and Citizens,

The University Park Fire Department's primary public safety mission is doing all we can to keep you safe from all types of dangers and hazards. As we approach the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, we are sending out safety tips and information related to the use of fireworks. We ask that all of you take a few moments to read the following material. We would also like to remind everyone that this Independence Day in 2020 is much different than years past due to the presence of the COVID-19 pandemic. While you are celebrating with family and friends, please remember to keep gatherings at safe levels, practice physical and social distancing, wear your masks or face coverings, and wash your hands regularly, especially before preparing and eating food.

Respectfully,

Brian D. Chellios  
Fire Chief

### **DISCLAIMER**

The University Park Fire Department does not endorse, authorize, or otherwise promote the use of or detonation of any type of fireworks by private citizens. Fireworks are dangerous and can lead to large fires, explosions, serious injuries, and even result in death. None of the information provided here suggests or guarantees that the conditions described above can be avoided by simply following any of the safety tips provided. The Village of University Park and the University Park Fire Department will not be held liable for damages, injuries, or deaths sustained from the illegal or unauthorized use of fireworks within the corporate limits of the Village. Citizens electing to use or detonate fireworks do so under their own free will.

### **VILLAGE PROHIBITIONS**

#### **Village Ordinance Chapter 630-Minors**

[https://library.municode.com/il/university\\_park/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeld=PTSIXGEOFCO\\_CH630MI](https://library.municode.com/il/university_park/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeld=PTSIXGEOFCO_CH630MI)

Section 02 provides information on Parental Responsibility in relation to "legal guardians" being held responsible for the acts of "minors" that result in the violation of a Village Ordinance concerning vandalism, curfew, disorderly conduct, fireworks, or other willful acts to persons or property.

#### **Village Ordinance Chapter 835-Fireworks Displays**

[https://library.municode.com/il/university\\_park/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeld=PTEIGHTBURETACO\\_TITWOBURE\\_CH835FIDI](https://library.municode.com/il/university_park/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeld=PTEIGHTBURETACO_TITWOBURE_CH835FIDI)

Section 01 outlines the requirements needed for fireworks displays on private property. Section 02 outlines the authority over fireworks displays on municipal property. Section 03 defines the hours in which fireworks of any kind are completely banned, which is between the hours of 11:00pm to 6:00am.



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## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Approved and Prohibited Consumer Fireworks and Unregulated Novelties

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/ApprovedAndProhibitedFireworks.pdf#search=fireworks>

Section 1 of the Pyrotechnic Use Act (425 ILCS 35/1) defines “Consumer Fireworks” as those fireworks that must comply with the construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission as set forth in 16 CFR Parts 1500 and 1507 and classified as fireworks UN 0336 or UN 0337 by the United States Department of Transportation under 49 CFR 172.101.

Fireworks in Illinois

[https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/FAQs\\_Consumer\\_Fireworks05212014.pdf](https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/FAQs_Consumer_Fireworks05212014.pdf)

The Illinois Legislature amended the Pyrotechnic Use Act and the Pyrotechnic Distributor and Operator Licensing Act. The Office of the State Fire Marshal has posted copies of these Acts, the emergency rules implementing these acts, and applications for the various licenses. The link provided above provides further information on the use of fireworks in Illinois.

## **SAFETY TIPS**

Private citizens do not qualify as Pyrotechnic Operators, which makes the use of fireworks by citizens and residents of the Village, whether on private or public property, illegal per Village Ordinance. If you have read the information to this point, and will still make the choice to use fireworks, the following safety tips should be exercised by everyone involved in and around the use of fireworks:

1. Never experiment with homemade fireworks
2. Children and minors should always be supervised by an adult
3. Adults lighting fireworks should avoid the use of alcohol
4. Those lighting fireworks should wear eye and ear protection
5. Follow all instructions, obey all warning labels, and use common sense
6. Do not use fireworks inside of metal or glass containers
7. Never point or throw fireworks at another person or animal
8. Make sure the area of use is safe and have water ready
9. Light one firework at a time and never attempt to re-light a firework
10. Do not place your face or other body part directly over a firework

