



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

JB Pritzker, Governor
Michele L. Pankow, State Fire Marshal

MEETING NOTICE

Consumer Fireworks Review Committee Meeting

Monday, October 5, 2026 – 12:00 PM

**Troy Fire Protection District
700 Cottage St., Shorewood, IL 60404**

Via Webex

Join from the Meeting Link

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m6b078c31f83227d7a4798ff5dbeee6ea>

Join by Phone:

+1-312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago)

+1-415-655-0002 US Toll

[Global call-in numbers](#)

Join by Meeting Number:

Meeting number (access code): 2864 999 7718

Meeting password: nrEJKgNh227

Join from a video system or application:

Dial [28649997718](tel:28649997718)@illinois.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Agenda

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Attendance and Introduction of Members
- 3) Approval of Agenda
- 4) Fire Marshal / Committee Chair Comments
- 5) Review of Definition of Consumer Fireworks
- 6) Review of the current list of Approved and Prohibited Consumer Fireworks and Effects
- 7) New Business
 - Consideration of By-Laws
 - Request from Phil Zaleski, Executive Director, Camp I Am Me, Illinois Fire Safety Alliance also representing the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association and Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts to remove items from the approved consumer fireworks list.
 - Request from Margaret Vaughn, Government Affairs, Camp I Am Me, Illinois Fire Safety Alliance also representing the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association, Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts, and Illinois Firefighters Association to remove items from the approved consumer fireworks list.
- 8) Public Comment on Agenda Items
- 9) Old Business
- 10) Adjournment

Contact: Chad Green

Pyrotechnic Compliance Licensing Specialist C- 217-986-1261

chad.e.green2@illinois.gov

OSFM Link: <https://sfm.illinois.gov/>

OSFM Pyrotechnic Page: <https://sfm.illinois.gov/iam/business/fireworks.html>



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

APPROVED AND PROHIBITED CONSUMER FIREWORKS AND UNREGULATED NOVELTIES

Reviewed without Revisions 11/12/2025

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 U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, as set forth in 16 C.F.R. Parts 1500 and 1507, and classified as fireworks UN0336 or UN0337 by the United States Department of Transportation under 49 C.F.R. 172.101." The United States Department of Transportation assigns the following division numbers to the above-referenced fireworks identification numbers: UN0336 (1.4G) and UN0337 (1.4S). 49 C.F.R. 172.101.

UNREGULATED NOVELTY EFFECTS

The Pyrotechnic Use Act (Act) expressly excludes the following novelty effects from the definition of Consumer Fireworks, 425 ILCS 35/1:

- 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, or other devices in which paper or plastic caps containing twenty- five hundredths grains (16 mg) or less of explosive compound are used, provided they are so constructed that the hand cannot come in contact with the cap when in place for the explosion;
- toy pistol paper or plastic caps that contain less than twenty hundredths grains (13 mg) of explosive mixture.

While the Act states that the sale and use of these novelty effects are permitted at all times, Section 3.4 of the Act gives municipalities the authority to enact an ordinance prohibiting the sale and use of sparklers on public property.

APPROVED CONSUMER FIREWORKS

As defined by the Act, all Consumer Fireworks must comply with the construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations of the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, as set forth in 16 C.F.R. Parts 1500 and 1507 and classified as fireworks UN0336 or UN0337 by the United States Department of Transportation under 49 C.F.R. 172.101.

In addition to complying with this definition, the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal requires Consumer Fireworks meet the following requirements to be approved by this Office:

1. The Consumer Fireworks must be labeled "1.4G Consumer" or must be 1.4S fireworks classified as UN0337 intended for outdoor consumer use.
2. The American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL) must have inspected the Consumer Fireworks. It is the Consumer Distributor's and Consumer Retailer's responsibility to ensure that the Consumer Fireworks he or she distributes, sells, offers for sale, exchanges for consideration, transfers, or provides have been tested and meet AFSL standards. The Consumer Distributor/Retailer shall maintain records verifying AFSL testing and compliance for the Consumer Fireworks he or she distributes, sells, offers for sale, exchanges for consideration, transfers, or provides.
3. The Consumer Fireworks must be ground mounted. No handheld Consumer Fireworks shall be approved.

Approved Consumer Fireworks are limited to the following types of fireworks:

1. **Cones including Showers of Sparks, Fountains, and Repeaters (also known as Cakes)**
Single tube fountains must not contain more than 75 grams total of pyrotechnic composition. Cone fountains must not contain more than 50 grams total of pyrotechnic composition. Multiple-tube fountains must not contain more than 500 grams total of pyrotechnic composition.
2. **Mines, Comets, Tubes, Shells, Fancy Florals, and Parachutes**
These items are firework devices designed to produce low-level aerial effects, which are propelled into the air by a lift charge. Shells will burst at the peak of flight to create a display of stars, reports or other effects or leave a trail of sparks until exhausted. These items contain a maximum of 40 grams of chemical composition and no more than 20 grams of lift charge.

Consumer Fireworks Retailers/Distributors registered with OSFM may sell approved Consumer Fireworks to consumers who have and display a valid Consumer Fireworks Display Permit, issued by the local county or municipality to that consumer.

PROHIBITED CONSUMER FIREWORKS

OSFM prohibits all Consumer Fireworks unless they meet the above-listed approval requirements. Prohibited Consumer Fireworks include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Handheld fireworks
- Bottle rockets
- Skyrockets
- Roman candles
- Chasers
- Buzz bombs
- Ground items other than those identified as Approved Consumer Fireworks
- Helicopters
- Missiles
- Pin wheels or any other twirling device whether on the ground or mounted above the ground
- Planes
- Sky lanterns, the type of balloon which requires fire underneath to propelsame
- Firecrackers (all types)

**BYLAWS OF THE OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL CONSUMER
FIREWORKS REVIEW COMMITTEE**
(Adopted XX/XX/202X)

ARTICLE 1: MEETINGS

SECTION 1: REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular Meetings of the Consumer Fireworks Review Committee (the “Committee”) established under and in accordance with Title 41: Fire Protection, Chapter I: Office of the State Fire Marshal, Part 35 Pyrotechnic and Consumer Display Permitting Rules, Section 235.140 Consumer Fireworks Review Committee, shall be scheduled by the Committee on an annual basis.

SECTION 2: PLACE, HOUR, AND CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

Meetings of the Committee shall be held at such convenient location(s) and at an hour approved by the majority of the members of the Committee. In-person meetings can include a meeting taking place at multiple designated locations open to the public in Illinois with participants appearing by simultaneously video or audio conference from such locations open to the public. All meetings of the Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

SECTION 3: ATTENDANCE

Committee members should make every effort to attend all meetings of the Committee in person. When personal attendance is not possible due to personal illness, disability, employment purposes, business, or a family or other emergency, participation by telephone or video or audio conference is permissible, but only if a quorum of Board members is physically present at the meeting location(s).

A Committee member who wishes to participate by telephone or video or audio conference shall request approval during the roll call of the meeting. A majority of the members attending in person must concur to allow that member to participate by telephone or video or audio conference. Except as specifically provided above, the Committee shall not conduct business via telephone call or electronic means such as electronic mail, electronic chat, instant or text messaging, or any other means of contemporaneous interactive communication that does not require physical presence at the meeting location.

SECTION 4: SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chair of the Committee, either at the Chair’s own demand or at the written request of a majority of the Committee members. Notice shall be given by the Chair to each member of the time and place of each special meeting at least 72 hours prior to the date of the meeting, by overnight courier, by electronic mail, by facsimile

transmission if the member has a facsimile number on file with the Chair, or by telephone. Such notice shall contain information as to the subject matter for consideration at the meeting. Notice of a special meeting shall not be valid until a sufficient number of members to constitute a quorum have confirmed with the Chair in writing or by telephone that the member has received notice of the special meeting.

SECTION 5: QUORUM

A majority of the members presently serving on the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any official meeting.

SECTION 6: VOTING

Each Committee member shall have one vote on any question coming before the Committee during any regular or special meeting which the member attends in person or by telephone or video or audio conference if attendance has been approved per Article I Section 3 of these Bylaws. Concurring votes by a majority of the members presently serving on the Committee shall be necessary for the adoption of any resolution or action by the Committee. A tie vote fails.

SECTION 7: ROLL CALLS

On any resolution or action by the Committee, the vote of each Committee member present shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

SECTION 8: RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Committee shall keep written minutes of all proceedings, whether open or closed, in which shall be recorded the date, time, and place of the meeting, whether each Committee member was physically present, participated by telephone or video or audio conference, or was absent, a summary of all matters discussed, and a record of any votes taken. Committee proceedings shall be transcribed into written minutes, which shall be submitted to the Committee for approval at the next meeting. The Chair shall ensure that a draft of minutes of the previous meeting and materials for each meeting are forwarded to all Committee members on a timely basis, generally at least 10 days prior to the meeting date. Executive sessions shall be recorded by audio medium. Audio recordings of executive sessions shall be retained no less than 18 months after completion of the executive session, and may be destroyed only after the Committee has approved written minutes of the executive session and has approved destruction of the particular audio recording.

SECTION 9: BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS

At the end of each Committee meeting agenda, a block of time for Committee member concerns will be allocated.

SECTION 10: PUBLIC COMMENT

The Committee is committed to hearing from and listening to interested parties. Public comment at meetings is subject to the following:

1. A public comment time shall be on the agenda.
2. Public comment shall be limited to issues pertaining to the Committee's business.
3. Public commenters requesting that a particular type of firework be included or excluded from the list of approved consumer fireworks may submit written context outlining the reasoning and/or experiences behind their petition upon Committee request. The time frame for review of any such requests shall be dependent on the type of firework and the amount of information the committee needs to compile in order to generate a decision.
4. Any individual who would like to speak to the Committee members shall be recognized by the Chair and identify themselves.
5. Public comment may be limited at the discretion of the Chair to allow sufficient time to conduct the meeting agenda.

SECTION 11: EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee may vote to adjourn into a closed executive session during a portion of an open meeting, only if the subject matter to be discussed falls under one of the exceptions contained in the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120. The procedure for adjourning into executive session, and the executive session itself, will be conducted in accordance with all requirements imposed by the Open Meetings Act. No final action may be taken during any executive session.

From: Philip Zaleski [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2026 7:57 AM
To: Pankow, Michele [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [External] Request to Remove Fireworks from Approved List

Good morning Michele,

[REDACTED]

I am reaching out to you because it has been brought to our attention that very dangerous pyrotechnic devices are now included on the OSFM Approved Fireworks List (see attached).

According to OSFM [Administrative Rules](#), before a device is added to the "approved list", its experience in other states shall be taken into consideration. The attached is letter from officials in New York addressed to the IL General Assembly, warning them of their horrific experience with when they approved "ground based sparklers," which are really the 500 gram cakes devices, and how they were forced to repealed the measure, should be a good example of why these devices should be on the "prohibited" list in Illinois.

Pursuant to Title 41 Section 235.130, we respectfully request the following devices be removed from the OSFM "Approved Consumer Fireworks List" and moved to the "Prohibited Consumer Fireworks" list.

Cones including Showers of Sparks, Fountains, and Repeaters (also known as Cakes) . Single tube fountains must not contain more than 75 grams total of pyrotechnic composition. Cone fountains must not contain more than 50 grams total of pyrotechnic composition. Multiple-tube fountains must not contain more than 500 grams total of pyrotechnic composition.

With the upcoming 4th of July season approaching, along with the increase in serious fireworks injuries, Camp I Am Me along with the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association, and the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts, request the Consumer Fireworks Review Committee meet to vote on our request in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Phil

Philip Zaleski
Executive Director
Camp I Am Me
Illinois Fire Safety Alliance
426 W. Northwest Highway
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
[REDACTED] | www.IFSA.org

From: Margaret Vaughn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2026 11:25 PM
To: Pankow, Michele [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [External] Re: Request to Remove Fireworks from Approved List
Importance: High

Hi Michele [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Now that the holiday season is over, I am following up not only on behalf of Camp I am Me, but (IAFPD, IFA and IFIA) to request a meeting of the Consumer Fireworks Review Committee, before the end of the summer to remove the cone fountains and multi-tube 500 cakes* that Phil had requested from the "OSFM Approved Consumer Fireworks List". These are the highest level of pyrotechnic content before being considered professional grade and they are anything but safe and it is totally misleading to the public, not to mention dangerous to have them remain on this list.

**Cones including Showers of Sparks, Fountains, and Repeaters (also known as Cakes) . Single tube fountains must not contain more than 75 grams total of pyrotechnic composition. Cone fountains must not contain more than 50 grams total of pyrotechnic composition. Multiple-tube fountains must not contain more than 500 grams total of pyrotechnic composition.*

According to OSFM [Administrative Rules](#), before a device is added to the "approved list", its experience in other states shall be taken into consideration. The attached letter is from officials in New York written to the IL General Assembly, warning them of their horrific experience when they approved these devices. [REDACTED]

Thank you so much for your assistance with this vital issue.

Warm Regards,

Margaret Vaughn, Government Affairs
Camp I am Me/IL Fire Safety Alliance
IL Firefighters Association
cell [REDACTED]



ANDREW JOYCE
CHAIRMAN

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NECOLE M. CHAMBERS
CLERK

PAUL T. DEVANE
FIRST DEPUTY CLERK

April 12, 2021

To the Illinois General Assembly Members,

It has come to our attention that the Illinois General Assembly is considering legislation to allow ground-based fireworks and/or sparkling devices. The Albany County Legislature in Albany County, NY in 2016 passed similar legislation and we would like to share our experience.

After we passed the legislation, we were under the impression that we were getting small hand-held sparklers or ground-based devices. In reality, we ended up getting pyrotechnic devices that ended up creating safety hazards and quality of life concerns for our residents. To make matters worse, there is no discernible difference between legal and illegal fireworks, making enforcement by local police and fire departments nearly impossible. In addition, our local police departments saw an increase in calls from residents who had mistaken sparkling devices and fireworks for gunshots. The exploding bangs, as you can imagine, affected children, pets and many of our veterans who suffer from PTSD.

Due to mounting concerns and feedback from our residents, local law enforcement and officials, the Albany County Legislature passed a local law in September 2020 prohibiting the use and sale of ground-based fireworks, ultimately repealing its 2016 law.

Sincerely,

Andrew Joyce
Chairman, Albany County Legislature