

## **STATE FIRE MARSHAL GUIDELINES ON FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR 2005**

The Fireworks Use Act [425 ILCS 35] was amended by the State legislature on July 23, 2003. The amendment changes the requirements necessary for issuance of a permit for public fireworks display. This guideline is intended to familiarize municipal and county officials, organizations and those persons wishing to sponsor a public fireworks display with the permit requirements contained in state law. It also outlines the minimum safety requirements applicable to fireworks displays.

The local governing authority is responsible for issuing fireworks display permits as provided for in the Fireworks Use Act. There is nothing in the state law that prohibits the local governing body from adopting rules that are more stringent than the rules contained herein.

### **PART A: PERMIT**

**When required.** A permit is required for any display of fireworks. A permit may be issued only to a group of 3 or more adult individuals that apply to conduct a fireworks display.

**Exception.** No permit shall be required for supervised public displays by State or County fair associations.

#### **Permit Procedure**

**Where to obtain a permit.** For fireworks displays that are to be conducted within the corporate limits of a city or village, the permit must be secured from the respective municipality. When a fireworks display is to be conducted outside the corporate limits of a municipality, the permit must be secured from the county.

**Application timeframe.** The applicant must submit a written application for a permit at least 15 days in advance of the date of the display.

**Application for a permit.** The application must be completed and signed by three (3) adult individuals. One of the three adults must be identified as the supervisor of the display.

**Proof of Insurance.** The applicant must submit with the application, proof of insurance in a sum not less than \$1,000,000. This requirement does not apply to a municipality sponsoring the fireworks display.

**Issuing Officer.** The local governing body must designate a local official to issue permits.

**Supervisor is competent.** The issuing officer must make a determination that the supervisor has the knowledge and is competent to supervise the display.

**Fireworks Display Site Inspection.** The permit shall be issued only after the issuing officer has inspected the display site to ensure that such display is not hazardous to property or endanger any person; is free from overhead obstacle; and not closer than 600' to any hospital, nursing home, or other institution. The issuing officer may consult with the local Fire Chief or the National Fire Protection Association's 1123 guidelines for outdoor displays to ensure the safety of persons and property.

**Local Fire Department.** The Chief of the fire department providing fire protection coverage to the area of display, or his or her designee, must approve and sign the permit.

**Copy to state Fire Marshal.** It is no longer a requirement that a copy of the permit be sent to this agency.

**Pyrotechnic Operators License.** The Illinois State Fire Marshal's office is not issuing Pyrotechnic Operators Licenses and will not issue said licenses before January 1, 2006. In the interim, possession of an explosives licenses from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and an Illinois Department of Natural Resources are acceptable substitute for the required Pyrotechnic Operator's License.

The Pyrotechnic Operators License [225 ILCS 227] became effective October 2004. Currently the agency is in the process of negotiating and drafting the rules and identifying the training and testing requirement to obtain a license. Please check the agency's website in January 2006 or call the office to obtain more information.

## **PART B: GENERAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAYS**

The supervisor is responsible for all aspects of the display related to fireworks and other pyrotechnics. While the supervisor may actively participate in the firing of the display, safety must be the supervisor's primary concern. The supervisor must ensure that:

1. No fire or life safety hazard is allowed to exist or occur during the storage, transportation, handling, preparation or use of fireworks.
2. All displays are conducted in accordance with applicable laws, codes, regulations and guidelines relating to fireworks.
3. A sufficient number of assistants are on hand for the safe conduct of the display and the safety of those watching the display.
4. Proper protective gear (i.e., safety glasses and protective clothing) is worn by all personnel involved in the display. Suitable protective clothing should include long-sleeved shirts and long pants made of 100 percent cotton, leather or other equivalent fabric.
5. A sufficient number of fire extinguishers of a suitable type are present while fireworks are being prepared for firing or fired.
6. If at any time high winds or wet weather create a danger, the display must be postponed until weather conditions improve.
7. The area in which debris from aerial fireworks has fallen must be inspected for unexploded fireworks and/or hot embers.

**VILLAGE OF STONE PARK**  
**FIREWORKS PERMIT APPLICATION**

As per Illinois Fireworks Use Act (425 ILCS 35) the following information is required to process a fireworks permit;

Name of Fireworks Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Fireworks Display: \_\_\_\_\_

Fireworks Display Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINTED NAME)

Fireworks Adult Crew: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINTED NAME)

Fireworks Adult Crew: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINTED NAME)

No application will be considered without written proof of insurance in a sum not less than \$1,000,000.00 and the signature of three adult individuals that will conduct the fireworks display.

I attest that by signing this form, I am over the age of 18 and will be present to conduct this requested fireworks display.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Supervisor)                      (Signature of Crew)                      (Signature of Crew)

\*\*\*\*\*Administration Use Only\*\*\*\*\*

Date Application Received:                      Received By:                      Insurance Received:

Approved:                      Police Notified:                      Fire Notified: