

The PA General Assembly passed House Bill 542 in October of 2017. This bill was subsequently signed into law by the Governor.

PA residents can now purchase and use “Class C” fireworks. These fireworks are commonly known as consumer-grade fireworks. These can include firecrackers, bottle rockets, and other fireworks that contain a maximum of 50 milligrams of explosive materials. These were previously available for out of state residents.

Display fireworks or “Professional Grade” are fireworks that contain more than 130 grains of explosive material. These can still only be used by a professionals that have proper permits through the state and local governing bodies.

High explosive fireworks including M-80s, M-1000s, quarter and half sticks are still illegal and cannot be used or possessed.

The new law for consumer grade fireworks is as follows:

Title 72 Section 9404 – Use of Consumer Fireworks

(a) Conditions – A person who is at least 18 years of age and meets the requirements of this article may purchase, possess, and use consumer fireworks

(b) Prohibitions – A person may not intentionally ignite or discharge:

(1) Consumer fireworks on public or private property without the express permission of the owner.

(2) Consumer fireworks or sparkling devices within, or throw consumer fireworks or sparkling devices from, a motor vehicle or building.

(3) Consumer fireworks or sparkling devices into or at a motor vehicle or building or at another person.

(4) Consumer fireworks or sparkling devices while the person is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance or another drug.

(5) Consumer fireworks within 150 feet of an occupied structure.

Law Enforcement urges everyone to use caution when using fireworks and act responsibly. Anyone found violating the new law will be cited, which includes a fine of \$100 plus costs.