



CANNABIS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

- **What will be the referendum question on the November 3, 2020 ballot?**
At its July 28, 2020 meeting, the Village Board voted ___-___ to adopt a resolution establishing an adult-use cannabis referendum on the November ballot. This is an advisory (non-binding) referendum intended to gauge public opinion and guide future discussions by the Village. The referendum question will read:

“Shall the retail sale of adult use recreational cannabis be permitted within the Village of Wilmette at a business licensed by the State of Illinois?”

- **How do I vote?**
If you are currently registered to vote, you will vote on the November 3, 2020 General Election Ballot, the referendum question will be included.

If you are not currently registered to vote, you can register through the Cook County Clerk’s Office at <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/register-vote>. Registration in person or by mail must be submitted by October 6, 2020 and registration online must be completed by October 18, 2020.

- **What does a “Yes” vote mean?**
A “Yes” vote will indicate that you are in favor of the retail sales of adult use recreational cannabis within Wilmette. Since this is an advisory (non-binding referendum); the outcome of the referendum will be utilized as a gauge for public opinion. The Village Board will make the final determination if adult use recreational cannabis will be permitted within the Village.
- **What does a “No” vote mean?**
A “No” vote will indicate that you are not in favor of the retail sales of adult use recreational cannabis within Wilmette. Since this is an advisory (non-binding referendum); the outcome of the referendum will be utilized as a gauge for public opinion. The Village Board will make the final determination if adult use recreational cannabis will be permitted within the Village.
- **What happens after the referendum?**

There will still be an opportunity after the referendum for the public to provide input on the final determination by the Village Board. There will be a public input process to have discussions on the following items:

- Ordinance prohibiting or allowing cannabis establishments in the Village
 - Determine if all uses or only certain uses may be permitted (dispensary vs. cultivation)
 - Zoning Regulations and Locations
 - Determined in which zoning districts such uses can be located
 - Make such uses special uses
 - Enact reasonable regulation not inconsistent with State Law
 - Limit the number of establishments within the Village
 - Create minimum distances from other sensitive establishments
-
- **Are retail sales of adult use recreational cannabis currently permitted within the Village of Wilmette?**

Currently, the retail sale of adult use recreational cannabis is not allowed within the Village of Wilmette. The Village Board adopted Ordinance 2019-O-63 which included a moratorium on the retail sale of cannabis within the Village. The moratorium is set to expire on June 30, 2021.
 - **Who can consume recreational cannabis in Illinois under the new law?**

Adults age 21 years and older can possess and consume limited quantities of cannabis or cannabis-infused product. You cannot legally possess or use any amount of cannabis if you are under the age of 21.
 - **How much recreational cannabis can I legally possess?**

Illinois residents age 21 and older can legally possess 30 grams of cannabis leaf, 5 grams of cannabis concentrate or 500 milligrams of cannabis-infused product. Out of state residents can legally possess half of those amounts.
 - **Where can I consume recreational cannabis?**

You can legally consume cannabis or THC-infused products in your home, on your private property or in businesses specifically licensed for cannabis consumption. Landlords and property owners can ban cannabis consumption on their property.
 - **Are there any places where smoking or consuming cannabis is not permitted under the new law?**

You cannot consume cannabis or THC-infused products in any public place. This is defined as any place where a person could reasonably be expected to be seen by others and includes streets, sidewalks, parks, playgrounds and parking garages. Consumption is also prohibited in motor vehicles, on any preschool, primary or secondary school grounds, or anywhere smoking is already prohibited, like restaurants and bars.

- **Where can I purchase recreational cannabis?**
The only place to legally purchase cannabis or THC-infused products is at a licensed business. Private sales are illegal.
- **Who is allowed to grow cannabis in Illinois under the new law?**
Only registered medical marijuana patients over 21 years of age are permitted to grow up to five marijuana plants at a time, and growing is only allowed in a locked, secure area outside of public view.
- **Who is allowed to possess cannabis in Illinois in a vehicle under the new law?**
Like alcohol, consumption of cannabis in a motor vehicle is prohibited and must be transported in a sealed, odor proof, child resistant container that is reasonably inaccessible in the vehicle.
- **What is the legal limit of THC blood concentration for a DUI in Illinois?**
The legal limit for driving is a THC blood concentration of more than five nanograms per milliliter. If you have more than that in your system, or are impaired, you may be charged with a DUI.
- **Can an employer restrict the use of cannabis?**
The Act permits an employer to utilize a Zero Tolerance Policy, meaning no cannabis consumption. It is recommended that individuals check with their employer and the personnel manual.
- **What are the penalties for violating cannabis laws?**
Wilmette has updated its municipal code to match the state law, and anyone found in violation of the new law will be issued a citation or subject to other enforcement action.
- **Where can I get additional information regarding the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act?**
The Illinois Department of Finance and Professional Regulation is responsible for implementing and administrating multiple aspects of the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act and is a source for additional information about the new law.

The State has also compiled a resource site for reference:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/cannabis/Pages/default.aspx>