

Hunting & Weapon Ordinances

§ 97-1 Hunting prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons, whether residents of this or any other state, to hunt with firearms, bow and arrow, cross bow or any other weapon, in or upon any lands or premises in the Township. A violation of this section shall result in the forfeiture of any weapon used contrary to this section.

§ 67-34 Firearms, longarms and dangerous weapons.

A. Definitions. As used in this section:

AMMUNITION

Any projectile or other device designed to be expelled by any firearm, excluding nonexplosive projectiles or other devices over six inches in length.

DANGEROUS WEAPON

Any firearm, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto or knife having a blade over three inches in length or any sharp-edged or pointed instrument or club or bludgeon or other dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument carried with intent to use same unlawfully against the person of another.

FIREARM

Any device or part of a device, by whatever name known, which is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile or projectiles by the action of an explosive expansion of gas or air or escape of gas or air, excluding however:

(1) Any device used exclusively for the firing of stud cartridges, explosive rivets or similar industrial ammunition.

(2) Any device which expels a projectile by the action of a spring.

(3) Any device used exclusively for signaling or safety and required or recommended by the United States Coast Guard, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Aviation Agency or the appropriate state agencies governing marine, air or highway safety.

LONGARM

Any rifle, shotgun or firearm over 30 inches in overall length.

B. Exceptions. This section shall not apply to:

(1) Members of the armed forces or the National Guard and other employees of the federal government and the states and their political subdivisions who are required to

carry firearms and longarms as part of their official duties and who are engaged in the performance of their official duties.

(2) Hunters during the hunting season designated by the laws of the State of Michigan with valid hunting licenses and while in an area where hunting is permitted; however, at all other times and in all other places, such persons must have their firearms and longarms unloaded and enclosed in a case.

(3) Persons while at a firearms or longarms showing or display recognized by the Township; however, at all other times and in all other places, such person must have his firearms or longarms unloaded and enclosed in a case.

(4) Persons whose firearms or longarms are unloaded and enclosed in a case.

(5) Firearm dealers licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Firearms Act of 1938 or applicable state or local law who keep such firearms solely for purposes of display and sales and not for personal use.

C. Prohibition to carry firearms or dangerous weapons. It shall be unlawful for any person to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon on his person or within or upon any vehicle, except as specifically provided for within this chapter, concealed or otherwise in or upon the public streets, alleys, public shopping centers or places of business frequented by the public or public parks or on property of any school or college, whether public, private or parochial, or locations of religious worship open to the public or any other public place in the Township, unless the bearer possesses a duly authorized unexpired Michigan license to carry a concealed weapon. It shall also be unlawful for any person to carry a machine gun or sawed-off shotgun or to have a silencer or any instrument, attachment or appliance for causing the firing of any firearm to be silent or intended to lessen or muffle the noise of the firing of any firearm, except as is otherwise permitted by law, or to have a switchblade knife, bomb, blackjack, metallic knuckles, sand gloves, sandbag, sand club, sling shot, billy club or metallic bars designed for use as a club in his possession. This paragraph shall not apply to the extent open carry of a firearm is permitted under the laws of the State of Michigan.

D. Prohibition to carry longarms. It shall be unlawful for any person to carry a longarm, whether cased or uncased, on the public streets, alleys, public shopping centers, places of business frequented by the public, parks or on property of any school, college, whether public, private or parochial, locations of religious worship open to the public, or any other public place in the Township except under the provisions of this chapter or to the extent open carry of a firearm is permitted under the laws of the State of Michigan.

(1) Unloaded longarms may be transported from a place of purchase to the residence of the purchaser if enclosed in a carton, container, closed gun case or wrapped completely in commercial wrapping paper securely closed by tape or string while being so transported.

(2) Unloaded longarms may be transported by motor vehicle to and from hunting and firearms practice or target shooting but must be fully enclosed into a closed carton, container or gun case or carried in the trunk of the vehicle.

(3) Unloaded longarms may be carried by persons 17 years of age older on foot to and from a regulated gun range, when the firearm is fully enclosed in a closed carton, container or gun case. Persons so involved shall proceed to and from the gun range without delay by avoiding loitering on the public streets and all other public places within the Township.

E. Aiming firearm or longarm. It shall be unlawful for any person within the Township, without just cause, to intentionally, without malice, point or aim any firearm or longarm at or toward any other person.

F. Discharging firearm or longarm. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm or other instrument producing a like effect and noise within the Township, except in the lawful defense of his person or property or as otherwise permitted by law. A person may utilize a firearm for the protection of his or her livestock from a reasonable threat of harm as long as the firing of the weapon is in a downward trajectory and not in a manner that may cause damage to any property or injury to any person.

G. Injury by discharge of firearm or longarm. It shall be unlawful for any person within the Township to maim or injure any other person by the discharge of any firearm or longarm unintentionally, without malice, at any such person.

H. Possession or control of firearm while intoxicated. It shall be unlawful for any person within the Township, while under the influence of an intoxicating liquor or controlled substance, to carry, have in possession or control, use in any manner or discharge any firearm or longarm.

I. A violation of this section shall result in the forfeiture of any weapon used contrary to this section.

§ 67-52 Discharge of firearms, bow and arrow and cross bows.

A. The use or discharge of any and all firearms, bow and arrow or cross bow within the Township is hereby prohibited.

B. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the use or discharge of any firearms in the following circumstances:

(1) By any person or persons properly acting in lawful self-defense; or

(2) By or at the direction of any police, military or governmental authority duly established under the laws of the Township, State of Michigan or the United States; or

(3) By law enforcement officers in the discharge of their duties; or

(4) By an established and lawfully permitted educational program, camp or school program or activity properly supervised with an application for a permit submitted to the

Northville Township Police Department which will only be allowed at the place, time and manner as may be approved; or

(5) Military functions, such as parades and funerals firing blank charges; or

(6) By an authorized shooting or practice range for the exclusive use of law enforcement officers of the Township, State of Michigan or United States; or

(7) As permitted in § 67-34(F) of the criminal code.

C. A violation of this section shall result in the forfeiture of any weapon used contrary to this section.