

FIREARMS/DISCHARGING OF WEAPONS ORDINANCE

Section I. Title/Purpose. This ordinance is entitled “Firearms/Discharging of Weapons Ordinance.” The purpose of the ordinance is as follows:

To promote the safety, health and general welfare by regulating the use of weapons in the Town of Onalaska.

Section II. Adoption of Ordinance. The Town Board of the Town of Onalaska hereby adopts the following:

A. All “Firearms” and “Bow and Arrows” are to be discharged in a safe and responsible manner as outlined in Wisconsin Statutes 941, Subchapter III.

B. No person shall shoot, discharge any rifle, shotgun, pistol or other firearm, or any air, spring, or pellet gun or similar device; or shoot, release or discharge any chemically activated rocket or missile at any of the following places:

1. Within 100 yards of a building devoted to human occupancy while on lands you do not own (including public lands) without permission of the owner of the building.

2. Across or within 50 feet of the center line of any Federal, State, County, or Town highway, road or street.

C. No person shall shoot, release or discharge any missile or arrow from any bow or crossbow at any of the following places:

1. Across or within 50 feet of the center line of any Federal, State, County or Town highway, road or street.

D. The provisions of Section II. A or B shall not apply to authorized rifle, trap or skeet ranges; peace officers while on duty or persons authorized by the Town of Onalaska, to discharge firearms or bows as part of a deer management program.

E. It shall be lawful for any person to establish a private shooting or target range in the basement of his/her own premises or entirely within the limits of his/her own land, if he/she shall first obtain from the Town Board a license or permit for such shooting or target range. It shall be the duty of the Town Board to ascertain whether such permits may be issued without danger to adjoining premises and the public in general. The fee for a Private Shooting/Target Range Permit is \$25.00 for five (5) years.

F. The provisions of Section II. A or B may be waived by the Town Board, at its discretion, and under circumstances that it deems appropriate. Said waiver may be subject to restrictions as established by the Board. Waiver of the provisions of Section II. A shall not relieve a person from the requirements of any other statute, ordinance or regulation by any governmental body regulating such activity.

Section III. Enforcement and Penalties. Any person who violates, disobeys or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be subject to a forfeiture of not less than Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) not more than Two-Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for each such offense, together with the cost of prosecution, and in default of payment of such fine and costs shall be imprisoned in the county jail until the said fine and costs are fully paid, but not to exceed thirty (30) days.

Section IV. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable, and it is expressly declared that the Town Board would have passed the provisions of the Ordinance irrespective of whether one or more provisions may be declared invalid, and if any provisions of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provisions to other person or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section V. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect on November 30, 2007. The provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail over any previous ordinances of the Town of Onalaska that are or may be in conflict therewith. As a result, Ordinance No. 2005-08-11 is hereby repealed in its entirety

Stan Hauser, Town Chairman

ATTEST:

Sue Schultz, Town Clerk

Passed 11-26-2007

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