

AGENDA
Firing Range Committee
Public Safety Building—PD Conference Room
Tuesday, May 28, 2024 – 6:30pm

Item 1. Call to Order.

Item 2. Attendance.

Item 3. Public Comment.

Item 4. Approval of Minutes: September 21, 2023.

Item 5. Discussion on updating the ordinance.

Item 6. Set next agenda items.

Item 7. Adjourn.

Subject: RE: Advice on Firing Range Ordinance

Good morning Jean-Marie,

I hope all is well. I have had a chance to review your questions, and my answers are below:

1. Discharge Ordinances. As a general matter, while municipalities are preempted from regulating firearms except for any ordinance which conforms exactly with state law, municipalities are authorized to regulate the discharge of firearms under the provisions in [12 M.R.S. § 13201\(1\)](#), [25 M.R.S. § 2011\(3\)](#) and [30-A M.R.S. § 3007\(5\)](#). As you note, to that end the Town's Firearms Ordinance prohibits the discharge of certain firearms in Town, except with consent from an owner on that owner's premises or on an approved firing range. Section 4 of the Firearms Ordinances reads as follows:

Section 4.

It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge any firearm except for shotguns, muzzle loader/black powder guns, revolvers, or pistols within the Town of Scarborough.

- (a) This section shall not apply to any person who has prior consent from the owner of the premises upon which said firearms are to be discharged.

As I read Section 4(a), the owner of a premises can give their consent to the discharge of any firearm on their property, since the language specifically notes that the prohibition does not apply in that instance. If the Council decides to adopt any amendments to this Ordinance, it must consult with IF&W during the process of consideration of that amendment.

1. Firing Ranges. Under Maine law municipalities are giving the authority to regulate the location and construction of any new sport shooting range (the term used in the statute) or any substantial change in use of any existing range on or after 9/1/2016. This regulatory authority applies whether the firing range is private or public.
3. Tannerite. I could not find any authority that suggests that a municipality could not limit or prohibit the use of Tannerite. I found at least three municipal ordinances that prohibits the use of exploding targets (https://wilton.mainetowns.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/Exploding-Target-Ordinance-WiltonApprov_8.17.20.pdf ; https://www.clinton-me.us/vertical/sites/%7B8223271E-6464-4357-A7AA-9AD738BDD5C8%7D/uploads/EXPLODING_TARGET_ORDINANCE_ADOPTED_NOV_04_2014_FINAL_VERSION.pdf; and also <https://vassalboro.net/uploads/ordinance-explodingtargets-adopted-at-6-2-14-town-meeting.pdf>), including Tannerite. I will need to do further research on this matter if the Committee would like to explore this option.

I hope this is helpful and I would be happy to answer any further questions.

Take care,
Phil

Philip Saucier
Shareholder
Municipal & Governmental Services Practice Group Leader

BERNSTEINSHUR

ARTICLE III
DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS

Sec. 40-41. Permission required to discharge firearms near residences. [Ord. of 5-20-1997 ; Ord. No. 2002.62, 10-1-2002]

It is unlawful for a person to shoot or discharge a firearm of any kind or description in the City within 100 yards of a residential dwelling without the permission of the owner, or in his absence an adult occupant of that dwelling as set forth in 12 M.R.S.A. § 7406(13).

Sec. 40-42. Discharge of firearm in reckless manner. [Ord. of 5-20-1997 ; Ord. No. 2002.62, 10-1-2002]

It is unlawful for a person to shoot or discharge a firearm of any kind or description in the City in a reckless manner pursuant to 17-A M.R.S.A. §§ 208-A and 211.

Sec. 40-43. Discharge of firearm in "no firearms discharge zone". [Ord. No. 2002.62, 10-1-2002 ; Ord. No. 2003.29, 3-18-2003]

It is unlawful for a person to discharge a firearm as defined in Section 40-45 in or into the "No discharge of firearms zone" in described Section 40-45.

Sec. 40-44. Exceptions. [Ord. of 5-20-1997 ; Ord. No. 2002.62, 10-1-2002 ; Ord. No. 2003.29, 3-18-2003 ; Ord. No. 2006.5, 4-4-2006]

- (a) The provisions of Sections 40-42 through 40-43 shall not apply in the following cases.
 - (1) Approved firearms range.
 - (2) Raccoon hunting at night with a .22 long rifle caliber firearm.
 - (3) Trappers tending their traps.
 - (4) Military funerals or reviews.
 - (5) Memorial events.
 - (6) Law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties.
 - (7) In the destruction of a dangerous animal as authorized by law.
 - (8) Hunters retrieving a wounded bird or animal.
 - (9) Hunting of wildlife pursuant to a depredation permit issued by the Maine State Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife allowing the removal of wildlife causing property damage, and with written permission from the Chief of Police.
- (b) Nothing in this section shall infringe upon the statutory right of a person to act in self defense as set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes.

Sec. 40-45. Definitions. [Ord. of 5-20-1997 ; Ord. No. 2002.62, 10-1-2002 ; Ord. No. 2003.29,

3-18-2003]

As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings.

APPROVED FIREARMS RANGE — An approved firearms range having a backstop constructed of logs or timbers at least 12 inches in diameter with an earth barrier behind or an earth barrier of suitable materials with no less than a 45° slope. There shall be a natural obstruction of trees or terrain to the rear of the backstop. The target area shall be placed no less than three feet from the top and sides of the backstop. The range widths of the target shall be no less than 15 feet, for 50 yards; 25 feet for 100 yards; and 50 feet for 200 yards. No range shall be situated less than 100 feet from the nearest roadway. No shooting is allowed between the hours of sunset and sunrise. These regulations do not apply to indoor shooting ranges.

FIREARM — Any weapon whether loaded or unloaded, which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, and includes any such weapon commonly referred to as a pistol, revolver, rifle, gun, machine gun, or shotgun. A weapon which can be made into a firearm by the insertion of a firing pin, or other similar thing, or repair, is a firearm.

MUZZLE-LOADING FIREARM — A rifle or smooth-bored firearm, patch and ball only, that is loaded through the muzzle with powder or priming charge or flint, match or wheel lock mechanism.

NO DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS ZONE — That part of the City encompassed within the following boundaries:

Beginning at a point on the border between Biddeford and Saco in the Saco River, said point also being at or near the Main Street Bridge;

Thence running in a generally southeasterly direction, along the border between Biddeford and Saco to a point on the border that would intersect to a straight line drawn from the center line easterly most side of the West Brook outlet;

Thence running in a generally southwesterly direction to a point 50 feet upland and parallel to the mean high water line of the main body of the Saco River to a point, said point being on the easterly most side of the West Brook outlet;

Thence running in a generally southeasterly direction, 50 feet upland and parallel to the mean high water line of the main body of the Saco River to a point, said point being the rock jetty at Hills Beach.

Thence running in a generally southeasterly direction, 50 feet upland and parallel to the mean high water line of the Atlantic Ocean, to the opening to the Biddeford Pool, more commonly known as "The Gut";

Thence running in a generally counter clockwise direction, 50 feet upland and parallel to the mean high water line of the Biddeford Pool to the opening to the Atlantic Ocean known as "The Gut";

Thence running in a generally northeasterly direction, 50 feet upland and parallel to the mean high water line of the Atlantic Ocean to East Point;

Thence running in a generally southwesterly direction, 50 feet upland and parallel to the mean high water line of the Atlantic Ocean to the Little River;

Thence running in a generally northerly direction, 50 feet upland and parallel to the mean high water line of the navigable portion of the Little River;

Thence running 50 feet, more or less, to the mean high water line of the Little River;

Thence running in a generally southwesterly direction, along the mean high water line of the Little River to a point, said point being the intersection of the mean high water line and the extension of the Biddeford-Kennebunkport Town line;

Thence running northwesterly along extension of the Biddeford-Kennebunkport Town Line and the Biddeford-Kennebunkport Town Line, each in part to a point, said point being the intersection of the Biddeford-Kennebunkport Town Line and the right-of-way line on the westerly side of Pool Street, also known as State Route 9;

Thence running along the last mentioned right-of-way line in varying directions, to a point, said point being the intersection of the right-of-way on the southerly side of Pool Street and the southerly right-of-way line of Meetinghouse Road;

Thence running in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southerly right-of-way line of Meetinghouse Road, to a point, said point being the intersection of the southerly right-of-way line of Meetinghouse Road and the right-of-way line on the southerly side of Pool Street;

Thence running in a generally northwesterly direction, along the right-of-way line on the southerly side of Pool Street to a point, said point being the intersection of the right-of-way line on the southerly side of Pool Street and the easterly bank of west Brook;

Thence running in a generally southwesterly direction, along the easterly bank of West Brook to Wilcox Pond;

Thence running in a generally southerly direction, along the easterly shore line of Wilcox Pond to the easterly bank of West Brook.

Thence running in a generally southerly direction, along the easterly bank of West Brook to a point 1,200 feet, more or less, northeasterly of the end of Granite Street Extension;

Thence running southwesterly parallel to Granite Street Extension, 1,800 feet, more or less, to a point 900 feet, more or less, southerly of the right-of-way at the end of Granite Street Extension;

Thence running in a generally westerly direction, perpendicular to the last mentioned line in a northwesterly direction, 2,250 feet, more or less, to the southerly bank of the southern leg of Richardson Brook;

Thence running along the southerly bank of the southern leg of Richardson Brook to Richardson Brook;

Thence running in a generally northerly direction, along the bank of the southerly side of Richardson Brook to a point, said point being the intersection of the bank on the westerly side of Richardson Brook and the southwesterly right-of-way line of Precourt Street, also known as the Turnpike Connector;

Thence running northwesterly along the southwesterly right-of-way line of Precourt Street to a point, said point being the intersection of the southwesterly right-of-way line of Precourt Street and the southerly right-of-way line of Alfred Street, also known as State Route 111;

Thence running in a westerly direction, along the southerly right-of-way line to a point, said point being the intersection of the southerly right-of-way line of Alfred Street and the westerly right-of-way line of Interstate 95, also known as the Maine Turnpike;

Thence running in a northerly direction, along the westerly right-of-way line of Interstate 95 to a point, said point being the intersection of the westerly right-of-way line of Interstate 95 and the mean high water line of the Saco River;

Thence running in a generally easterly direction, along the mean high water line of the Saco River to a point on the westerly side of the boat launch at Rotary Park;

Thence running on a perpendicular line to the border between Biddeford and Saco in the Saco River.

Thence running in a generally easterly direction along the border between Biddeford and Saco in the Saco River to the point of beginning.

Thence running in a northerly direction to a point, said point being the mean high water line at the western point of Spring Island;

Thence running in a generally clockwise direction, along the mean high water line of the Saco River to the easterly point of Spring Island;

Thence running in a southerly direction, to a point on the mean high water line on the southerly bank of the Saco River;

Thence running in a generally southeasterly direction, along the mean high water line of the Saco River to a point, said point being the intersection of the mean high water line and southeasterly edge of the Main Street Bridge;

Thence running at or near the southeasterly edge of the Main Street Bridge, 50 feet more or less, in a southwesterly direction to the point of beginning.

This description is intended to describe that portion shown as a "No discharge zone" on a map entitled "Proposed Firearms Ordinance Boundaries," dated: January 9, 1997, revised: March 4, 2003, Scale: 1" = 2,000', and Prepared By: The City of Biddeford Engineering Department. This Plan is recorded with the City of Biddeford Engineering Department, Plan TD-1169

SHOTGUN — A rifled or smooth bore firearm designated to shoot shot shells, e.g., 10, 12, 16, 20, 28 gauge .410 caliber.

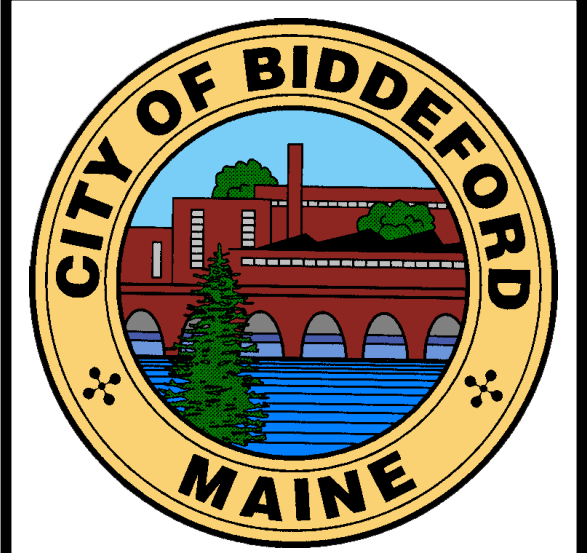
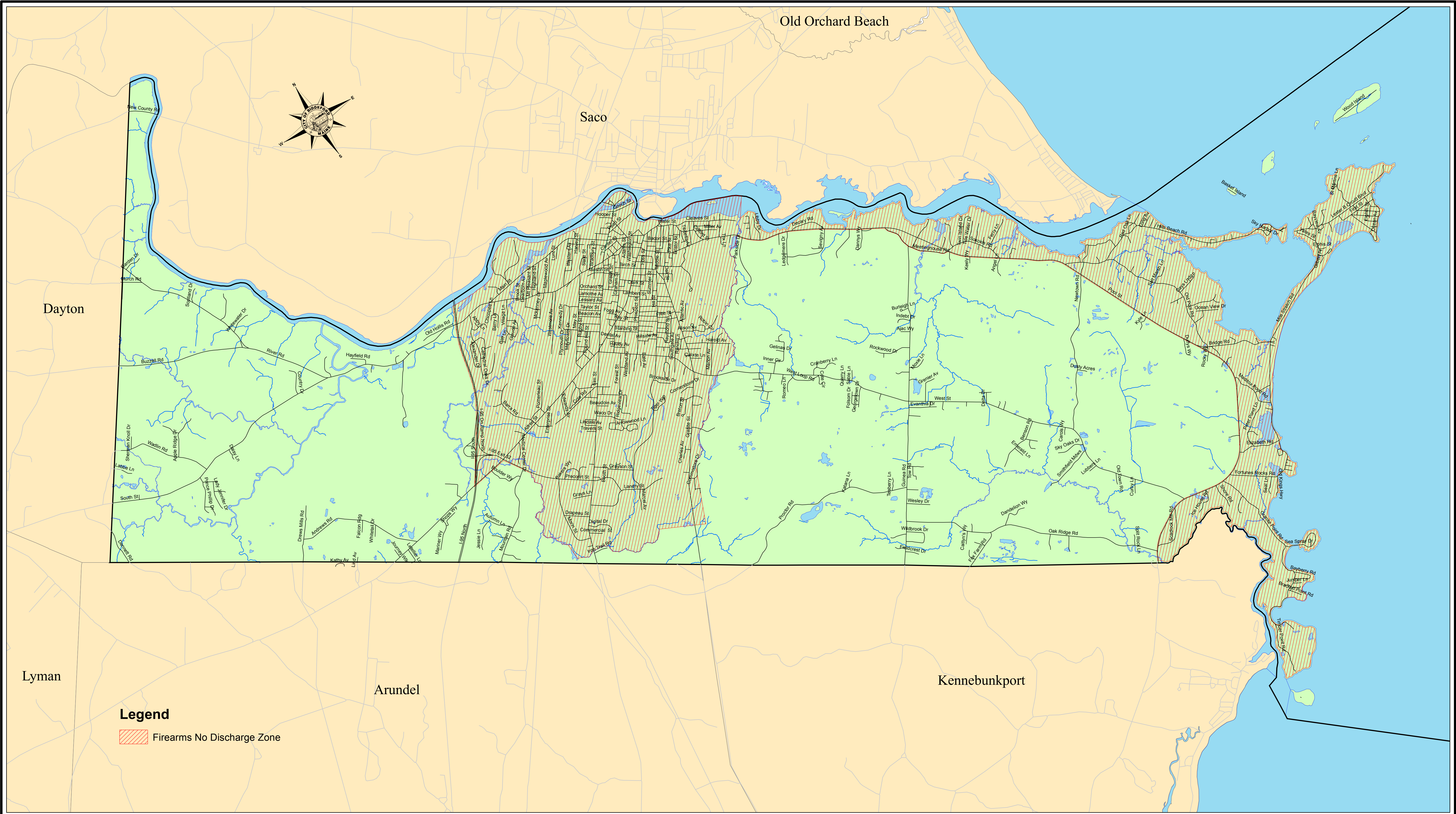
Sec. 40-46. Penalties. [Ord. of 5-20-1997 ; Ord. No. 2002.62, 10-1-2002]

A person who violates any of the provisions of this section is subject to a fine of not less than \$500, plus costs, which fines shall be recovered in a civil action to the use of the City.

Sec. 40-47. Committee review. [Ord. No. 2003.29, 3-18-2003]

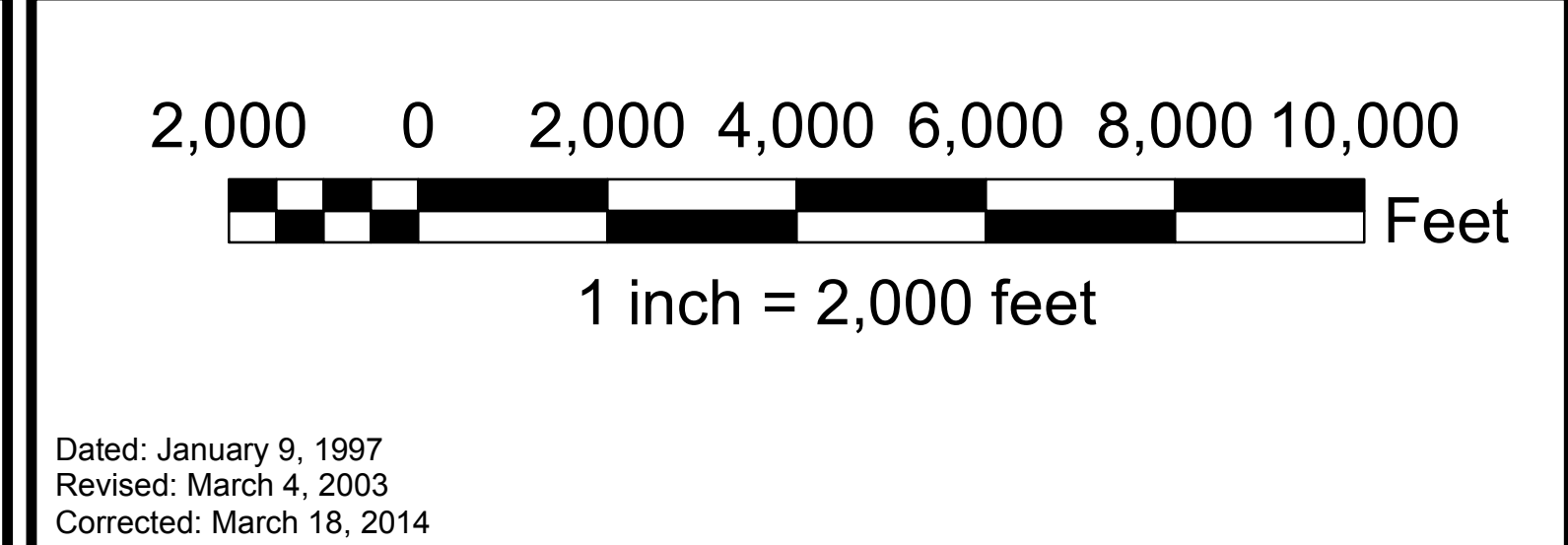
At such time as a review is conducted of the Discharge of Firearms Ordinance, an ad hoc committee will be convened, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council, to participate in the review process.

Sec. 40-48. through Sec. 40-50. (Reserved)



The City of Biddeford, Maine
 Engineering Department - GIS Mapping
 205 Main Street · P.O. Box 586 · Biddeford, Maine 04005-0586
 Tel. 207 284-9118 · Fax 207 286-9388

**Firearms Ordinance
 No Discharge Zone**
 Biddeford Code Sec. 40-41 through 40-45



CHAPTER 9

FIREARMS

Article I. Discharge of Firearms.

[Adopted eff. 3/9/64; R.S. 1964, T. 30, Sec. 2151. Revised eff. 8/7/91.]

Sec. 9-1-1. Prohibition of Discharge of Firearms. The discharge of firearms, air rifles or pistols is prohibited in all areas of Town excepting the salt marshes, property owned by the Spurwink Rod and Gun Club, and property under federal jurisdiction, and excepting the use of such weapons at military exercises or in the lawful defense of person, family or property of any individual or entity. Use of rifles except on target ranges authorized by the Police Department is prohibited within all areas of the Town.

Sec. 9-1-2. Killing Wildlife Damaging Crops. No person shall discharge firearms at any deer, raccoons, skunks, woodchucks or other wild animals doing damage to any orchards or growing crops except in accordance with applicable state statutes. Such person shall notify the Police Department, prior to commencing such activity, of the time and location where such activity is proposed and shall also notify the Police Department immediately upon the completion of each such activity, unless other arrangements are made with the Police Chief. Such person shall exhibit to the Police Department once during its effective period any written permission required by state statute or regulation for such activity. The Police Department may impose such reasonable restrictions upon the time or location of said activities, and the type of firearms to be used, as may be necessary to protect the public health and safety; it shall not prevent any such activity unless it has evidence that the person proposing the same is not competent to do so safely, and it shall not require that any police officer observe or take part in such activities. [Added, eff. 12/22/76.]

Sec. 9-1-3. Penalty. Any person found guilty of violating Sec. 9-1-1 or Sec. 9-1-2 shall be subject to a fine for each such violation in an amount not to exceed \$500.00, to be recovered for use of the Town by complaint to the District Court. [Revised, eff. 12/22/76.]

**TOWN OF GORHAM
FIREARMS ORDINANCE
Enacted June 7, 1994
Amended September 6, 1994
Amended October 7, 2011
Amended August 3, 2021**

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 “Firearm” means any instrument used in the propulsion of pellets, shot, or bullets by action of gunpowder, including, but not limited to a handgun, muzzleloader, rifle, or shotgun.
- 1.2 “Muzzle-loading firearm” means a muzzleloader, a traditional muzzleloader, modern inline muzzleloader, or a muzzle-loading shotgun.
- 1.3 “Muzzleloader” means a firearm that:
 - A. Is capable of being loaded only through the muzzle;
 - B. Is ignited by a matchlock, wheel lock, flintlock, or caplock, including an in-line caplock, shotgun, or rifle primer mechanism;
 - C. Has a rifled or smooth-bored barrel or barrels, each barrel capable of firing only a single charge;
 - D. Propels a ball, bullet, or charge of shot;
 - E. May have any type of sights, including scopes.
- 1.4 “Direct family members” means any person related to the property owner by blood or by marriage.
- 1.5 “Shotgun” means a firearm typically used to fire a number of small balls from a shotgun shell through a rifled or smoothbore barrel of relatively large diameter, propelling a load of pellets, buckshot, bullets or slugs, for the purpose of big or small game hunting. A shotgun may have any type of sights, including scopes.
- 1.6 “Handgun” means a firearm of a description from which any shot or bullet .35 caliber or larger and loaded with straight-walled cartridges can be discharged where the barrel, not including any revolving, detachable or magazine breech, does not exceed 12 inches and is designed to be held and fired with one hand, such as a revolver or pistol.

SECTION 2. SHOTGUN, HANDGUN, AND MUZZLE LOADING, RESTRICTED ZONE

- 2.1 It shall be a violation of this ordinance for any person to discharge a firearm of any kind or description, except for shotguns, handguns, or muzzle loaders, as defined under Section 1, within the “Handgun, Shotgun, and Muzzle Loading Restricted Zone” as shown on the Gorham Firearms Map, which is dated May 17, 2021 and subsequently amended, as is kept in the Gorham Town Clerk’s office.
- 2.2 This section shall not apply to any person while on their own property to which they are legally entitled to possession, or on which they are actually domiciled, or their direct family members or persons who have written permission from the owner.

SECTION 3. OWNER OF PROPERTY

- 3.1 This ordinance shall not restrict an owner of said property, or any person that has obtained written permission from the owner, whether or not such property is located in the "Shotgun and Muzzle Loading Restricted Zone" from discharging a firearm on his/her own property to dispatch a wild animal that is destroying said property, so long as said owner or permitted individual of the property acts pursuant to and in accordance with Title 12 M.R.S.A., Sections 12401-12404.

SECTION 4. DISCHARGE OF FIREARM NEAR DWELLING IS PROHIBITED.

- 4.1 The discharge of a firearm, including shot guns or muzzleloaders, within 300 feet of a building or residential dwelling is prohibited without the permission of the owner, or in the owner's absence, an adult occupant of the building or dwelling authorized to act on behalf of the owner.

SECTION 5. MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES

- 5.1 It shall be a violation of this ordinance for any person to discharge a firearm of any type or description at or on municipal properties as listed:
- A. Within 500 feet of any School Property
 - B. Gorham Municipal Center
 - C. Baxter Memorial Library
 - D. The Chick Property located between Main Street, Libby Avenue and Gray Road
 - E. Within 300 feet of the Public Works Garage
 - F. Within 300 feet of the fuel tanks located on Huston Road
 - G. Fort Hill Park
 - H. Little Falls Recreation Area
 - I. Little Falls School Area
 - J. Shaw Park
 - K. Robie Park
 - L. Cherry Hill Property located between Route 237 and Smith Road on Main Street
 - M. Lavoie Pumptrack
 - N. Gorham Industrial Park

SECTION 6. NARRAGANSETT GAME SANCTUARY

- 6.1. "Narragansett Game Sanctuary" as defined in Title 12 M.R.S.A. Sec. 12706 (1)(S) is: "The following described territory situated in the Town of Gorham, in the County of Cumberland: Bounded on the north by the right-of-way of the W.N. and P. division of the Boston & Maine Railroad; on the east side by the Black Brook Road or Scarborough Road, also known as Brackett Road and Libby Avenue¹ so called, in said Town of Gorham; on the south side by the Stroudwater River; and on the west side by South Street or South Gorham Road, so called, in the Town of Gorham, containing 3,600 acres, more or less. For provisions relating specifically to Narragansett Game Sanctuary, see Title 12, M.R.S.A. Section 12707 (2)(D).

SECTION 7. VIOLATIONS/FINES

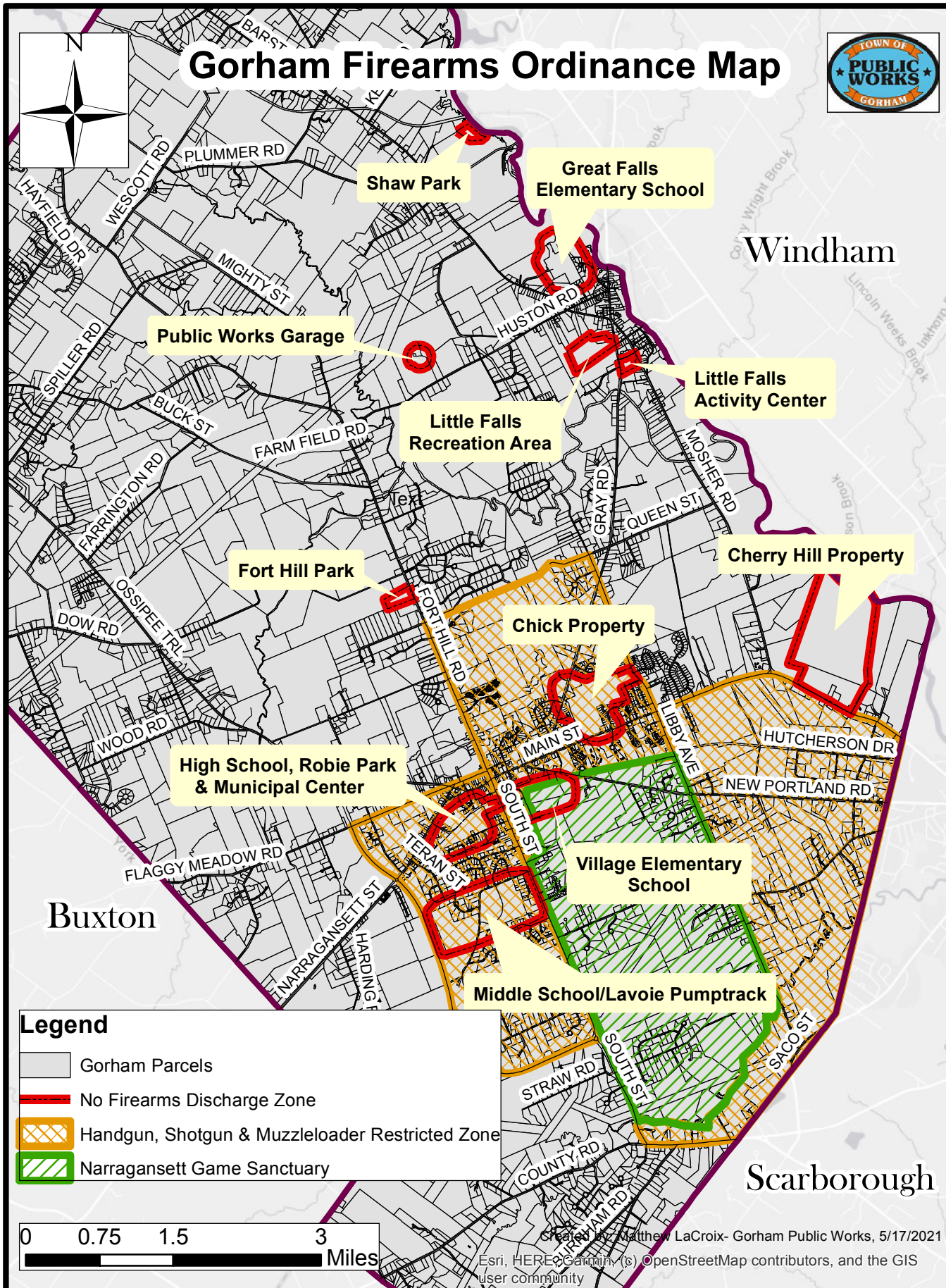
- 7.1 Any person found to be in violation of any part of this ordinance shall be fined not less than \$300.00 and not more than \$5,000.00, with the fine recovered for use by the Town of Gorham. The Town of Gorham may initiate any and all actions and proceedings either legal or equitable that may be appropriate or necessary for the enforcement of this

ordinance and the Town shall be entitled to recover its legal costs related to the enforcement of same

SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY

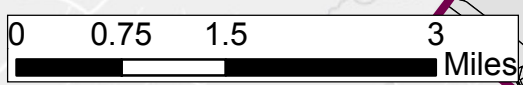
- 8.1 If any section or provision of this ordinance shall be finally declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining sections and provisions of the ordinance.
- 9.1 The following activities are exempted from the firearms discharge ordinance:
 - A. The discharge of a firearm by a Gorham police officer, or other local, state, or federal law enforcement officer acting in their official duties.
 - B. The discharge of a firearm by persons using outdoor skeet, trap, target, test shooting ranges with the consent of the owner or legal occupant of the land on which a legal shooting range has been established under the Town's Land Use & Development Code.

Gorham Firearms Ordinance Map



Legend

- Gorham Parcels
- No Firearms Discharge Zone
- Handgun, Shotgun & Muzzleloader Restricted Zone
- Narragansett Game Sanctuary



Created by Matthew LaCroix- Gorham Public Works, 5/17/2021
 Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Chapter 99

FIREARMS

§ 99-1.	Definitions.	§ 99-4.	Zones.
§ 99-2.	Permission required for discharge near residences.	§ 99-5.	Exceptions.
§ 99-3.	Discharge in a reckless manner prohibited.	§ 99-6.	Noise limitations.
		§ 99-7.	Violations and penalties; recovery of fines.

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Saco 5-1-1995 as Ch. III, Sec. 3-2, of the 1994 Code. Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 99-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

APPROVED OUTDOOR FIREARMS RANGE — An approved outdoor firearms range having a backstop constructed of logs or timbers of at least 12 inches in diameter with an earth barrier behind or an earth barrier of suitable materials with no less than a forty-five-degree slope. There shall be a natural obstruction of trees or terrain to the rear of the backstop. The target area shall be placed no less than three feet from the top and sides of the backstop. The range widths of the target shall be no less than 15 feet for 50 yards, 25 feet for 100 yards and 50 feet for 200 yards. No range shall be situated closer than 100 feet from any roadway and shall be constructed so that bullets or projectiles will not travel toward the nearest roadway. No shooting at an outdoor range shall be allowed between the hours of sunset and sunrise. These regulations shall not apply to indoor shooting ranges. **[Amended 5-2-2016]**

FIREARM — Any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, and includes any such weapon commonly referred to as a "pistol," "revolver," "rifle," "gun," "machine gun" or "shotgun." Any weapon which can be made into a firearm by the insertion of a firing pin or other similar thing or repair is a firearm.

MUZZLELOADING FIREARM — A rifle or smoothbore firearm that is loaded through the muzzle with powder or priming charge or a flint-, match- or wheel lock mechanism.

NO-DISCHARGE ZONE — That portion of the City encompassed within the following boundaries: Deep Brook, from the Saco River northerly to Route 112; then easterly to the intersection of Route 112 and Jenkins Road; then northerly to so-called Newton Farm Pond; then easterly to the Maine Turnpike; then southerly to Goosefare Brook; then following Goosefare Brook easterly to Old Orchard Road; then southerly to Ferry Road; then easterly to the easternmost boundary of Laurel Hill Cemetery; then southerly to the Saco River, thence along the Saco River to Deep Brook, the point of beginning. **[Amended 11-7-2005]**

SHOTGUN — A rifled or smoothbore firearm designated to shoot shot shells, e.g., 10-, 12-, 16-, 20- and 28-gauge and .410-caliber.

SHOTGUN/MUZZLELOADING FIREARM-ONLY ZONE — That portion of the City encompassed within the following boundaries: **[Amended 4-1-1996 ; 11-7-2005 ; 5-2-2016]**

A. That area from the point where Deep Brook joins the Saco River northerly along the westerly side of

Deep Brook to Buxton Road; then westerly along Buxton Road to Simpson Road; then southwesterly along Simpson Road to Fire Lane 4; then from the intersection of Fire Lane 4 and Simpson Road southwesterly to the Saco River; thence along the Saco River to the Maine Turnpike, the point of beginning.

- B. Beginning at a point along the Saco River at the southeast corner of Laurel Hill Cemetery; then in a northerly direction to Ferry Road; then westerly on Ferry Road to Old Orchard Road; then northerly on Old Orchard Road to the Goosefare Brook at the town line; then easterly along Goosefare Brook to the ocean's edge; then southerly along the shoreline to the breakwater at Camp Ellis; then westerly along the Saco River to Laurel Hill Cemetery, being the point of beginning.

UNRESTRICTED ZONE — That portion of the City not encompassed within the no-discharge or shotgun/muzzleloading firearm-only zones. **[Added 5-2-2016]**

§ 99-2. Permission required for discharge near residences. [Amended 5-2-2016]

It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge a firearm of any kind or description in the City within 100 yards of a residential dwelling without the permission of the owner or, in their absence, of an adult occupant of that dwelling.

§ 99-3. Discharge in a reckless manner prohibited. [Amended 5-2-2016]

It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge a firearm of any kind or description in the City in a reckless manner.

§ 99-4. Zones. [Amended 5-2-2016]

- A. Shotgun/muzzleloading firearm-only zone. It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge a firearm of any kind or description other than a shotgun, muzzleloading firearm, or blank cartridges in any portion of the City which is designated as a shotgun/muzzleloading firearm-only zone, and the western-style shooting will be done in a confined internal building.
- B. No-discharge zone. It shall be unlawful for a person to shoot or discharge a firearm of any kind or description in the no-discharge zone except as specifically allowed in this chapter.
- C. Unrestricted zone. There are no municipal restrictions on discharging legally possessed or licensed firearms in this zone, subject to all applicable federal, state or municipal laws or ordinances.

§ 99-5. Exceptions. [Amended 5-2-2016]

No provision of this chapter shall be construed to limit the authority to discharge a firearm by a person who is:

- A. Acting in lawful defense of a person, including themselves.
- B. A law enforcement officer or government official acting within the scope of their lawful duties.
- C. A member of any branch of the United States military, veterans' organizations or similar organizations in connection with public ceremonial events and do involve the release of projectiles.
- D. Discharging a firearm with blank cartridges for school-sanctioned theatrical productions or athletic events.

- E. In the shotgun/muzzleloading firearm-only zone, discharging a firearm with blank cartridges if otherwise compliant with 12 M.R.S.A. § 11209.
- F. In the shotgun/muzzleloading firearm-only zone, discharging a firearm at an approved firearms range.
- G. Raccoon hunting at night with a .22 long rifle caliber firearm.
- H. A trapper tending his traps.

§ 99-6. Noise limitations. [Added 5-2-2016¹]

Notwithstanding the preceding, any contest or event that involves shooting, and any facility that hosts, promotes or facilitates shooting on its premises, must also comply with any applicable City noise limitation and ordinance.

§ 99-7. Violations and penalties; recovery of fines.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000, plus costs, which fines shall be recovered in a civil action to the use of the City.

1. Editor's Note: This ordinance also redesignated former § 99-6 as § 99-7.

Saco, Maine Firearms Discharge Zones

Key

- No Local Restrictions
- Shotgun Only
- No Discharge Zone

**SEE SACO CITY CODE
CHAPTER 99 titled FIREARMS
for more in depth descriptions and
other regulatory laws governing
hunting in these areas**

