

Chapter 72

Firearms

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Article I
Definitions

§ 72-10. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated.

1. FIREARM –

- a. **Class ‘A’ Firearm** is a weapon that expels, is designed to expel, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; or the frame or receiver of such a weapon.
- b. **Class ‘B’ Firearm** shall include, but is not limited to, air rifle, air gun, slingshot, pistol, BB gun, spring gun, gas-operated gun, pellet gun or rifle, paint gun or rifle.

2. TOWN – Town of Thurmont

Article II
Discharge of Firearm

§ 72-20. Discharge of Firearm within the Town Limits

1. No person shall discharge a Class 'A' Firearm within the corporate limits of the Town. A person convicted of discharging a Class 'A' Firearm shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to imprisonment not to exceed six months, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00, or both.
2. It shall be unlawful for any parent, guardian, custodian, or care giver to knowingly permit a minor to violate § 72-20.1 and shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor, and be subject to imprisonment not exceeding six months, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00, or both.
3. No person shall discharge a Class 'B' Firearm within the corporate limits of the Town. A violation of this section is declared to be a municipal infraction. The penalty for violation shall be a sum of fifty (\$50.00) dollars.
4. It shall be unlawful for any parent, guardian, custodian, or care giver to knowingly permit a minor to violate § 72-20.3 and will be subject to a penalty if he knew or should have known that the minor would violate that section or give a minor the firearm with which to do so. A violation of this section is declared to be a municipal infraction. The penalty for violation shall be a sum of fifty (\$50.00) dollars.

§ 72-21. Exceptions

1. The above section does not apply to:
 - a. The discharge of a firearm by any duly authorized law enforcement official acting in proper performance of their official duty.
 - b. In the lawful defense of person or property.
 - c. To destroy a dangerous animal or to relieve an injured animal from suffering.
 - d. During theatrical performances or sporting events with prior written notification to and approval by the Chief of Police.
 - e. Firing during ceremonial salutes or events with prior written notification to and approval by the Chief of Police.
 - f. Discharge of a Class 'A' Firearm at a duly organized rifle, gun or pistol club while such member is engaged in practice or competition on an established range approved by the Chief of Police or officer in charge of the Police Department.
 - g. The discharge of noise making devices for the purpose of disbursing nesting or roosting wild birds. This shall only be conducted by an employee of the Town of Thurmont with the written permission by the

Board of Commissioners, and with prior notification to the Chief of Police.