

40.0500

**FIREARMS ORDINANCE  
TOWNSHIP OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
ord. no. 356 eff. Jan. 25, 2002**

An Ordinance to secure the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the residents and property owners of the Charter Township of Grand Haven, Ottawa County, Michigan, by regulation of the use of firearms, the restriction as to the firing of firearms, the prohibition of shooting firearms within specified areas; to provide penalties for the violation thereof, and to repeal all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith.

THE TOWNSHIP OF GRAND HAVEN, OTTAWA COUNTY, MICHIGAN,  
ORDAINS:

40.0501

**Sec. 1            PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to secure and maintain the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the residents and property owners of the Charter Township of Grand Haven, Ottawa County, Michigan, by the regulation of the use of firearms within said township and the approval of firearm ranges. This Ordinance is not intended to regulate hunting or to conflict with the exclusive control of hunting activities by the State of Michigan.

40.0502

**Sec. 2            TITLE**

This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the Charter Township of Grand Haven Firearms Ordinance.

40.0503

**Sec. 3            DEFINITIONS**

1.     **FIREARM:** The word "firearm," as used in this Ordinance, shall mean any weapon or device from which is propelled any missile, projectile, bullet, shot, pellet, or other mass by means of explosives. Not included within this definition are weapons whose means of propulsion are compressed air or gas, or by means of springs, levers, or other mechanical devices.

40.0504

**Sec. 4            REGULATION OF USE OF FIREARMS**

No person shall, from and after the effective date of this Ordinance, discharge any pistol, revolver, shotgun, or rifle within the Charter Township of Grand Haven, except under the following circumstances:

1.     Authorized officers of the law are permitted to discharge their firearm or rifle in the performance of their duties.

2. A person may discharge a firearm or rifle for the protection of life and/or property, to the extent otherwise allowed by law.
3. A person may discharge a firearm or rifle for target practice purposes, in a safe manner, upon any sport shooting range in existence prior to December 26, 1989 that is operating in accordance with applicable laws and ordinances; which specifically includes, but is not limited to, the North Ottawa Rod and Gun Club.
4. A person may discharge a firearm in connection with otherwise lawful hunting activities allowed by the State of Michigan.
5. A person may discharge a firearm (between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and the earliest of sunset or 8:30 p.m.) on any parcel of land with a lot area, as defined by the Township Zoning Ordinance, of ten acres or larger which is located in any area zoned Agricultural, Rural Preserve, or Rural Residential as defined by the Township Zoning Ordinance.

**40.0505      Sec. 5            DISCHARGE RESTRICTIONS; ROADWAYS**

From and after the effective date of this Ordinance, it shall be unlawful to discharge any firearms, upon or across any public road or highway, within said township.

**40.0506      Sec. 6            AGE RESTRICTION**

Except as may be permitted by the Hunting Regulations of the State of Michigan, it shall be unlawful for any person under the age of 17 years to discharge a firearm unless under the direct supervision and control of and accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or adult person authorized by said parent or legal guardian, to have direct supervision of the person under the age of 17 years, and further, it shall be the responsibility of every parent, guardian or other person having the physical custody or charge of any minor under the age of 17 years, to control said minor and prevent said minor from violating or attempting to violate any provisions of this Ordinance.

**40.0507      Sec. 7            ADMINISTRATIVE LIABILITY**

No officer, agent, or employee of the township shall be personally liable for any damage that may occur to any person as a result of any act required or permitted in the discharge of duties in the enforcement of this Ordinance.

**40.0508      Sec. 8            PENALTIES**

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed 90 days, or by both such fine and

imprisonment.

**40.0509      Sec. 9            VALIDITY**

Should any action, clause or provision of this ordinance be declared to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so declared invalid.

**40.0510      Sec. 10            EFFECTIVE DATE/REPEAL**

This Ordinance was approved and adopted by the Township Board of Grand Haven Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, on January 14, 2002. This Ordinance shall be effective on January 25, 2002.