



## INFORMATION ABOUT THE WEAPONS ORDINANCE

The City Commission adopted a new [Weapons Ordinance](#), which goes into effect April 1, 2020. The ordinance regulates firearms, pneumatic guns, other projectile weapons (like bows and crossbows), and imitation firearms.

### What is a pneumatic gun?

- An implement, designed as a gun, that will expel a BB or pellet by spring, gas, or air. Includes a paintball gun that expels by pneumatic pressure plastic balls filled with paint.

### What is an imitation firearm?

- A toy, imitation or facsimile of a gun that is required, by federal law, to contain distinctive markings to distinguish it from a real gun, like an orange tip or translucent casing. Not a pneumatic gun.

### What does “brandishing” mean?

- Brandishing means “to point, wave about, or display in a manner intended to induce fear in another person”.

### What does the new Weapons Ordinance do?

- **Prohibits discharge of a firearm.**
- **Prohibits discharge of a pneumatic gun, bow or crossbow unless at an authorized target range or on private property with permission of owner and conducted with reasonable care.**
- **Prohibits brandishing a firearm in a public place; prohibits brandishing of a bow, crossbow, or pneumatic gun.**

- **Prohibits youth under the age of 16 from possessing a pneumatic gun, bow or crossbow in a public place unless under the supervision of parent or guardian.**
- **Requires that imitation firearms follow federal laws for distinctive markings. What is a distinctive marking?**
  - A blaze orange solid plug permanently affixed to the muzzle end of the barrel for a depth of at least 6 millimeters;
  - A blaze orange marking permanently affixed to the exterior surface of the barrel covering the circumference of the barrel from the muzzle end for a depth of a least 6mm;
  - Entirely transparent or translucent materials which permits unmistakable observation of its contents; or
  - Coloration of the entire exterior surface in white, bright red, bright yellow, bright green, bright blue, bright pink, or bright purple, either singly or as the predominant color.
- **Prohibits possession, exposure, brandish, and knowingly giving, selling or furnishing an imitation firearm to someone under age 18 if the imitation firearm does not have the distinctive markings required by federal law.**
- **Prohibits removing or altering markings on imitation firearms in a way that makes it look real.**
- **Requires reasonable parental responsibility for youth observance of the ordinance.**
- **Violations: first offense violation related to an imitation firearm is a civil infraction (\$500 fine); all other violations of the ordinance are misdemeanors (up to 90 days in jail and \$500 fine). Weapons used in violation of the ordinance could be subject to seizure and forfeiture.**