

TITLE 11

MUNICIPAL OFFENSES¹

CHAPTER

1. ALCOHOL.
2. FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.
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4. FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES.
5. TRESPASSING AND INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC.
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CHAPTER 1

ALCOHOL²

SECTION

- 11-101. Drinking alcoholic beverages in public, etc.
 11-102. Minors in beer places.

11-101. Drinking alcoholic beverages in public, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to drink, consume or have an open can or bottle of beer or intoxicating liquor in or on any public street, alley, avenue, highway, sidewalk, public park, public school ground or other public place. (1968 Code, § 10-229, modified)

¹Municipal code references

Animal control: title 10.

Housing and utilities: title 12.

Fireworks and explosives: title 7.

Traffic offenses: title 15.

Streets and sidewalks (non-traffic): title 16.

²Municipal code reference

Sale of alcoholic beverages, including beer: title 8.

State law reference

See Tennessee Code Annotated § 33-8-203 (Arrest for Public Intoxication, cities may not pass separate legislation).

11-102. Minors in beer places. No person under the age of twenty-one (21) shall loiter in or around or otherwise frequent any place where beer is sold at retail for on premises consumption. (1968 Code, § 10-222)

CHAPTER 2**FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.****SECTION**

11-201. Fortune telling, etc.

11-201. Fortune telling, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct the business of, solicit for, or ply the trade of fortune teller, clairvoyant, hypnotist, spiritualist, palmist, phrenologist, or other mystic endowed with supernatural powers. (1968 Code, § 10-235)

CHAPTER 3

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

SECTION

11-301. Disturbing the peace.

11-302. Anti-noise regulations.

11-301. Disturbing the peace. No person shall disturb, tend to disturb, or aid in disturbing the peace of others by violent, tumultuous, offensive, or obstreperous conduct, and no person shall knowingly permit such conduct upon any premises owned or possessed by him or under his control. (1968 Code, § 10-202)

11-302. Anti-noise regulations. Subject to the provisions of this section, the creating of any unreasonably loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noise is prohibited. Noise of such character, intensity, or duration as to be detrimental to the life or health of any individual, or in disturbance of the public peace and welfare, is prohibited.

(1) Miscellaneous prohibited noises enumerated. The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, but this enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive, namely:

(a) Blowing horns. The sounding of any horn or other device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, truck, or vehicle while not in motion except as a danger signal if another vehicle is approaching, apparently out of control, or if in motion, only as a danger signal after or as brakes are being applied and deceleration of the vehicle is intended; the creation by means of any such signal device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; and the sounding of such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time.

(b) Radios, phonographs, etc. The playing of any radio, phonograph, or any musical instrument or sound device, including but not limited to loudspeakers or other devices for reproduction or amplification of sound, either independently of or in connection with motion pictures, radio, or television, in such a manner or with such volume, particularly during the hours between 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any office or hospital, or in any dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(c) Yelling, shouting, etc. Yelling, shouting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, particularly between the hours of 11:00

P.M. and 7:00 A.M., or at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of any person in any hospital, dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(d) Pets. The keeping of any animal, bird, or fowl which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any person in the vicinity.

(e) Use of vehicle. The use of any automobile, motorcycle, truck, or vehicle so out of repair, so loaded, or in such manner as to cause loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other noise.

(f) Blowing whistles. The blowing of any steam whistle attached to any stationary boiler, except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire or danger, or upon request of proper town authorities.

(g) Exhaust discharge. To discharge into the open air the exhaust of any steam engine, stationary internal combustion engine, motor vehicle, or boat engine, except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom.

(h) Building operations. The erection (including excavation), demolition, alteration, or repair of any building in any residential area or section or the construction or repair of streets and highways in any residential area or section, other than between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. on week days, except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from the building inspector granted for a period while the emergency continues not to exceed thirty (30) days. If the building inspector should determine that the public health and safety will not be impaired by the erection, demolition, alteration, or repair of any building or the excavation of streets and highways between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., and if he shall further determine that loss or inconvenience would result to any party in interest through delay, he may grant permission for such work to be done between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. upon application being made at the time the permit for the work is awarded or during the process of the work.

(i) Noises near schools, hospitals, churches, etc. The creation of any excessive noise on any street adjacent to any hospital or adjacent to any school, institution of learning, church, or court while the same is in session.

(j) Loading and unloading operations. The creation of any loud and excessive noise in connection with the loading or unloading of any vehicle or the opening and destruction of bales, boxes, crates, and other containers.

(k) Noises to attract attention. The use of any drum, loudspeaker, or other instrument or device emitting noise for the purpose of attracting attention to any performance, show, or sale or display of merchandise.

(l) Loudspeakers or amplifiers on vehicles. The use of mechanical loudspeakers or amplifiers on trucks or other moving or standing vehicles for advertising or other purposes.

(2) Exceptions. None of the terms or prohibitions hereof shall apply to or be enforced against:

(a) Town vehicles. Any vehicle of the town while engaged upon necessary public business.

(b) Repair of streets, etc. Excavations or repairs of bridges, streets, or highways at night, by or on behalf of the town, the county, or the state, when the public welfare and convenience renders it impracticable to perform such work during the day.

(c) Noncommercial and nonprofit use of loudspeakers or amplifiers. The reasonable use of amplifiers or loudspeakers in the course of public addresses which are noncommercial in character and in the course of advertising functions sponsored by nonprofit organizations. However, no such use shall be made until a permit therefor is secured from the board of mayor and aldermen. Hours for the use of an amplified or public address system will be designated in the permit so issued and the use of such systems shall be restricted to the hours so designated in the permit. (1968 Code, § 10-234)

CHAPTER 4**FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES****SECTION**

11-401. Air rifles, etc.

11-402. Throwing missiles.

11-403. Discharge of firearms.

11-401. Air rifles, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person in the town to discharge any air gun, air pistol, air rifle, "BB" gun, or sling shot capable of discharging a bullet or pellet, made of metal, plastic or any other kind of material, whether propelled by spring, compressed air, expanding gas, explosive, or other force-producing means or method. (1968 Code, § 10-213)

11-402. Throwing missiles. It shall be unlawful for any person to maliciously throw any stone, snowball, bottle, or any other missile upon or at any vehicle, building, tree, or other public or private property or upon or at any person. (1968 Code, § 10-214)

11-403. Discharge of firearms. It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to discharge a firearm within the corporate limits. (1968 Code, § 10-212)

CHAPTER 5

TRESPASSING AND INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC

SECTION

11-501. Trespassing.

11-502. Interference with traffic.

11-501. Trespassing.¹ (1) On premises open to the public.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to defy a lawful order, personally communicated to him by the owner or other authorized person, not to enter or remain upon the premises of another, including premises which are at the time open to the public.

(b) The owner of the premises, or his authorized agent, may lawfully order another not to enter or remain upon the premises if such person is committing, or commits, any act which interferes with, or tends to interfere with, the normal, orderly, peaceful or efficient conduct of the activities of such premises.

(2) On premises closed or partially closed to public. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly enter or remain upon the premises of another which is not open to the public, notwithstanding that another part of the premises is at the time open to the public.

(3) Vacant buildings. It shall be unlawful for any person to enter or remain upon the premises of a vacated building after notice against trespass is personally communicated to him by the owner or other authorized person or is posted in a conspicuous manner.

(4) Lots and buildings in general. It shall be unlawful for any person to enter or remain on or in any lot or parcel of land or any building or other structure after notice against trespass is personally communicated to him by the owner or other authorized person or is posted in a conspicuous manner.

(5) Peddlers, etc. It shall also be unlawful and deemed to be a trespass for any peddler, canvasser, solicitor, transient merchant, or other person to fail to promptly leave the private premises of any person who requests or directs him to leave.² (1968 Code, § 10-226, modified)

¹State law reference

Subsections (1) through (4) of this section were taken substantially from Tennessee Code Annotated, § 39-14-405.

²Municipal code reference

Provisions governing peddlers: title 9, chapter 1.

11-502. Interference with traffic. It shall be unlawful for any person to stand, sit, or engage in any activity whatever on any public street, sidewalk, bridge, or public ground in such a manner as to prevent, obstruct, or interfere with the free passage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic thereon. (1968 Code, § 10-233)

CHAPTER 6**MISCELLANEOUS****SECTION**

11-601. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.

11-602. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc.

11-603. Posting notices, etc.

11-604. Violation and penalty.

11-601. Abandoned refrigerators, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to leave in any place accessible to children any abandoned, unattended, unused, or discarded refrigerator, icebox, or other container with any type latching or locking door without first removing therefrom the latch, lock, or door or otherwise sealing the door in such a manner that it cannot be opened by any child. (1968 Code, § 10-223)

11-602. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit to be maintained on property owned or occupied by him any cave, well, cistern, or other such opening in the ground which is dangerous to life and limb without an adequate cover or safeguard. (1968 Code, § 10-232)

11-603. Posting notices, etc. No person shall paint, make, or fasten, in any way, any show-card, poster, or other advertising device or sign upon any public or private property unless legally authorized to do so. (1968 Code, § 10-227)

11-604. Violation and penalty. A violation of any provision of this title shall be punishable under the general penalty provision of this code.

CHAPTER 7

CURFEW REGULATIONS

SECTION

11-701. Curfew established--exceptions--duties of apprehending authority.

11-701. Curfew established--exceptions--duties of apprehending authority. (1) It is unlawful for any minor between seventeen (17) and eighteen (18) years of age to remain in or upon any public street, highway, park, vacant lot, establishment or other public place within the county during the following time frames:

(a) Monday through Thursday between the hours of eleven o'clock P.M. (11:00 P.M.) to six o'clock A.M. (6:00 A.M.).

(b) Friday through Sunday between the hours of twelve o'clock (12:00) Midnight to six o'clock (6:00 A.M.).

(2) It is unlawful for any minor sixteen (16) years of age and under to remain in or upon any public street, highway, park, vacant lot, establishment or other public place within the county during the following time frames:

(a) Monday through Thursday between the hours of ten o'clock P.M. (10:00 P.M.) to six o'clock A.M. (6:00 A.M.).

(b) Friday through Sunday between the hours of eleven o'clock P.M. (11:00 P.M.) to six o'clock A.M. (6:00 A.M.).

(3) It is unlawful for a parent or guardian of a minor to knowingly permit or by inefficient control to allow such minor to be or remain upon any street or establishment under circumstances not constituting an exception to, or otherwise beyond the scope of subsections (1) and (2). The term "knowingly" includes knowledge which a parent or guardian should reasonably be expected to have concerning the whereabouts of a minor in that parent's legal custody. The term "knowingly" is intended to continue to keep neglectful or careless parents up to a reasonable community standard of parental responsibility through an objective test. It is not a defense that a parent was completely indifferent to the activities or conduct or whereabouts of such minor child.

(4) The following are valid exceptions to the operation of the curfew:

(a) At any time, if a minor is accompanied by such minor's parent or guardian;

(b) When accompanied by an adult authorized by a parent or guardian of such minor to take such parent or guardian's place in accompanying the minor for a designated period of time and purpose within a specified area;

(c) Until the hour of twelve-thirty A.M. (12:30 A.M.), if the minor is on an errand as directed by such minor's parent;

(d) If the minor is legally employed, for the period from forty-five (45) minutes before to forty-five (45) minutes after work, while going directly between the minor's home and place of employment. This exception shall also apply if the minor is in a public place during the curfew hours in the course of the minor's employment. To come within this exception, the minor must be carrying written evidence of employment which is issued by the employer;

(e) Until the hour of twelve-thirty A.M. (12:30 A.M.) if the minor is on the property of or the sidewalk directly adjacent to the place where such minor resides or the place immediately adjacent thereto, if the owner of the adjacent building does not communicate an objection to the minor and the law enforcement officer;

(f) When returning home by a direct route from (and within thirty (30) minutes of the termination of) a school activity or an activity of a religious or other voluntary association, or a place of public entertainment, such as a movie, play or sporting event. This exception does not apply beyond one o'clock A.M. (1:00 A.M.).

(g) In the case of reasonable necessity, but only after such minor's parent has communicated to law enforcement personnel the facts establishing such reasonable necessity relating to specified streets at a designated time for a described purpose including place or origin and destination. A copy of such communication, or the record thereof, an appropriate notation of the time it was received and of the names and addresses of such parent or guardian and minor constitute evidence of qualification under this exception;

(h) When exercising First Amendment rights protected by the United States Constitution, such as the free exercise of religion, freedom of speech and the right of assembly. A minor shall show evidence of the good faith of such exercise and provide notice to the town officials by first delivering to the appropriate law enforcement authority a written communication, signed by such minor, with the minor's home address and telephone number, addressed to the mayor of the county specifying when, where and in what manner the minor will be on the streets at night during hours when the curfew is still otherwise applicable to the minor in the exercise of a First Amendment right specified in such communication; and

(i) When a minor is, with parental consent, in a motor vehicle engaged in good faith interstate travel.

Each of the foregoing exceptions, and the limitations are severable.

(5) When any child is in violation of this section, the apprehending officer shall act in one (1) of the following ways:

(a) In the case of a first violation, and if in the opinion of the officer such action would be effective, take the child to the child's home and warn and counsel the parents or guardians; or

(b) Issue a summons to the child and/or parents or guardians to appear in city court; or

(c) Issue a summons to the child and/or parents or guardians to appear at the juvenile court; or

(d) Bring the child into the custody of the juvenile court for disposition.

(6)(a) A minor violating the provisions of this section shall commit an unruly act disposition of which shall be governed pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, title 37.

(b) Any parent, guardian, or other person having the care, custody and control of a minor violating the provisions of this section shall be fined no more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each offense; each violation of the provisions of this section shall constitute a separate offense.