

TITLE 11

MUNICIPAL OFFENSES¹

CHAPTER

1. ALCOHOL.
2. [DELETED.]
3. [DELETED.]
4. OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET.
5. INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL.
6. FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES.
7. TRESPASSING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF AND INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC.
8. MISCELLANEOUS.

CHAPTER 1

ALCOHOL²

SECTION

- 11-101. Drinking beer, etc., on streets, etc.
- 11-102. [Deleted.]
- 11-103. Alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs prohibited.

11-101. Drinking beer, etc., on streets, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to drink or consume, or have an open container of beer or intoxicating liquor within a vehicle, in or on any public street, alley, avenue, highway, sidewalk, public park, public school ground or other public place unless the place has an appropriate permit and/or license for on premises consumption. (1979 Code, § 10-229, as amended by Ord. #09-13, Aug. 2009)

¹Municipal code references

Animals and fowls: 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. [Deleted.] (1979 Code, § 10-222, modified, as deleted by Ord. #06-40, Nov. 2006)

11-103. Alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs prohibited. All alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs are hereby prohibited on all property owned, leased, and in any way controlled by the City of White House. (as added by Ord. #04-10, Aug. 2004)

CHAPTER 2

DELETED

(This chapter was deleted by Ord. #14-01, Feb. 2014)

CHAPTER 3

DELETED

(This chapter was deleted by Ord. #02-30, Nov. 2002)

CHAPTER 4

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

SECTION

11-401. Disturbing the peace.

11-402. Anti-noise regulations.

11-401. 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. (1979 Code, § 10-202)

11-402. 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 signal device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, truck, or other 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 persons in any hospital, dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(d) 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.

(e) 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.

(f) 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 9:00 P.M., except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from a 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 9:00 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 9:00 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.

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

(h) 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.

(i) Fireworks. The discharging of fireworks shall be prohibited anywhere within the city limits of White House between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 10:00 A.M. On July 4th of each year the hours prohibited begin at 11:00 P.M. On December 31st of each year the hours prohibited begin at 1:00 A.M. (January 1st). Events sponsored by the City of White House or special events approved by the mayor and board of aldermen are exempt from these restrictions.

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

(a) Municipal vehicles. Any vehicle of the municipality 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 municipality, 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 recorder. Hours for the use of an amplifier 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. (1979 Code, § 10-233, as amended by Ord. #14-17, Aug. 2014, Ord. #18-03, Feb. 2018, and Ord. #22-15, Dec. 2022 ***Ch20_08-17-23***)

CHAPTER 5

INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL

SECTION

11-501. [Deleted.]

11-502. Impersonating a government officer or employee.

11-503. False emergency alarms.

11-504. [Deleted.]

11-501. [Deleted.] (1979 Code, § 10-209, as deleted by Ord. #02-30, Nov. 2002)

11-502. Impersonating a government officer or employee. No person other than an official police officer of the municipality shall wear the uniform, apparel, or badge, or carry any identification card or other insignia of office like or similar to, or a colorable imitation of that adopted and worn or carried by the official police officers of the municipality. Furthermore, no person shall deceitfully impersonate or represent that he is any government officer or employee. (1979 Code, § 10-211)

11-503. False emergency alarms. It shall be unlawful for any person intentionally to make, turn in, or give a false alarm of fire, or of need for police or ambulance assistance, or to aid or abet in the commission of such act. (1979 Code, § 10-217)

11-504. [Deleted.] (1979 Code, § 10-210, as deleted by Ord. #02-30, Nov. 2002)

CHAPTER 6

FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES

SECTION

11-601. Air rifles, etc.

11-602. Throwing missiles.

11-603. Discharge of firearms.

11-601. Air rifles, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person in the municipality to discharge any air gun, air pistol, air rifle, "BB" gun, or sling shot capable of discharging a metal bullet or pellet, whether propelled by spring, compressed air, expanding gas, explosive, or other force-producing means or method. (1979 Code, § 10-213)

11-602. Throwing missiles. It shall be unlawful for any person to throw maliciously 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. (1979 Code, § 10-214)

11-603. Discharge of firearms. It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to discharge a firearm within the corporate limits. (1979 Code, § 10-212, modified)

CHAPTER 7**TRESPASSING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF AND INTERFERENCE
WITH TRAFFIC****SECTION**

11-701. Trespassing.

11-702. [Deleted.]

11-703. Interference with traffic.

11-701. Trespassing. The owner or person in charge of any lot or parcel of land or any building or other structure within the corporate limits may post the same against trespassers. It shall be unlawful for any person to go upon any such posted lot or parcel of land or into any such posted building or other structure without the consent of the owner or person in charge.

It shall be unlawful and deemed to be a trespass for any peddler, canvasser, solicitor, transient merchant, or other person to fail to leave promptly the private premises of any person who requests or directs him to leave. (1979 Code, § 10-226)

11-702. [Deleted.] (1979 Code, § 10-225, as deleted by Ord. #02-30, Nov. 2002)

11-703. 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 unreasonably with the free passage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic thereon. (1979 Code, § 10-232)

CHAPTER 8

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION

- 11-801. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.
- 11-802. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc.
- 11-803. Posting notices and distribution of literature.
- 11-804. [Deleted.]
- 11-805. Wearing masks.
- 11-806. Skate boards.
- 11-807. Loitering during school hours.

11-801. 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. (1979 Code, § 10-223)

11-802. 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. (1979 Code, § 10-231)

11-803. Posting notices and distribution of literature. No person shall fasten, in any way or distribute, in any way any show-card, poster, flyer, leaflet, banner or any other written material or advertising or other advertising device upon any public or private property unless legally authorized to do so. (1979 Code, § 10-227)

11-804. [Deleted.] (1979 Code, § 10-224, as deleted by Ord. #02-30, Nov. 2002)

11-805. Wearing masks. It shall be unlawful for any person to appear on or in any public way or place while wearing any mask, device, or hood whereby any portion of the face is so hidden or covered as to conceal the identity of the wearer. The following are exempted from the provisions of this section:

- (1) Children under the age of ten (10) years.
- (2) Workers while engaged in work wherein a face covering is necessary for health and/or safety reasons.

(3) Persons wearing gas masks in civil defense drills and exercises or emergencies.

(4) Any person having a special permit issued by the city recorder to wear a traditional holiday costume. (1979 Code, § 10-235)

11-806. Skate boards. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride on or operate a skate board on or in any public way or place. (1979 Code, § 10-236)

11-807. Loitering during school hours. A child who has not reached his eighteenth (18) birthday, and being subject to the state compulsory attendance law, Tennessee Code Annotated, section 49-6-3001, shall not loiter, idle, wander or play in or upon the public streets, highways, alleys, parks or other public places, buildings, business, places of amusement and entertainment, vacant lots or other unsupervised places during those hours he/she is required to be in school under the state compulsory school attendance law. Further, no child shall be taken into custody for violation of this section until an investigation with the proper school officials has been made to determine if the child is required to be in school.

No parent, guardian or other adult person who has been delegated the care and custody of such child under the age of eighteen, shall knowingly permit such child to violate the provisions of this section. A parent, guardian or other persons who has been delegated the care or custody of such child found to be in violation of this section shall be held punishable as authorized by law. (as added by Ord. #96-21, Oct. 1996)