

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PUBLIC PEACE & SAFETY  
IN REGARDS TO THE DISCHARGE OF WEAPONS**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the Town of Wilson's Mills as follows:

**Section 1. General Prohibitions of Discharging Weapons:**

- 1) It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge any shotgun, rim fire rifle or pistol and/or center fire rifle or pistol within the corporate limits of the Town.
- 2) It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge any firearm within any of the established zoning districts of the corporate limits of the Town, **except** for zoning district RA-40.
- 3) Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to prohibit:
  - a. Any sworn law enforcement officer from discharging firearm in the performance of official duties; or
  - b. Any person, corporation or organization operating a rifle, pistol, skeet or trap range or other firing range which range is substantially in accordance with specifications promulgated by the National Rifle Association or by an equivalent nationally recognized firearms safety authority for the type and caliber of firearm being fired; or
  - c. Any person or organization operating a turkey shoot when the activity has been authorized by the Police Chief of the Town of Wilson's Mills; or
  - d. Any person using model rockets designed to propel a model vehicle in a vertical direction; or
  - e. Any person using a weapon or other instrument used to fire blank ammunition for a lawful purpose; or
  - f. Any person from discharging a firearm as part of a funeral ceremony; or
  - g. A person hunting on his own property or with the property owner, or on another's property in their absence if he has on his person a valid state hunting license and written permission from the property owner, **and**:
    - (i) The firearm discharged by the person hunting is a firearm employed for taking birds and animals; and
    - (ii) There is a valid hunting season in effect at the time the firearm is discharged; and
    - (iii) The firearm is not discharged within 500 feet of a dwelling house, school, church or any other occupied building, street or road, park or recreation area or other type of public gathering; and
    - (iv) The parcel or tract of land which the hunter owns or has permission to hunt upon conforms with Section 1 (2); and
    - (v) The person discharging the firearm exhibits reasonable regard for the safety and property of other persons.
  - h. Any person engaged in a commercial livestock operation from using a firearm or other weapon in defending any commercial animal against any other animal.

- i. Any person properly licensed to operate a gunsmith shop as allowed in the Table of Permitted Uses of the Town of Wilson's Mills Zoning Ordinance.
- 4) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined up to \$500.00 and/or imprisoned to a term of 30 days.

**Section 2. State Law References:**

- 1) Discharging certain weapons into occupied property, G.S. 14-34.1; and
- 2) Authority to regulate firearms, G.S. 160A-189.

**Section 3. Effective Date:**

This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

**Duly adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 2006.**

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**PETER H. WILSON, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**LEIGHANNA T. WORLEY, Town Clerk**