

ORDINANCE NO. 71

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, PROHIBITING THE FIRING OF RIFLES, PISTOLS, SHOTGUNS, AIRGUNS, BOWS, OR ANY OTHER WEAPON OR INSTRUMENT OF SIMILAR CHARACTER TO BE USED FOR HUNTING WITHIN THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE; AND PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, wildlife is the property of the state, and the State Fish and Wildlife Commission is charged with preserving, protecting, and perpetuating wildlife; and game animals, game birds, and game fish may be taken only at times or places, or in manners or quantities as the Commission decrees and

WHEREAS, a municipality is responsible for the protection and the welfare of its constituents; and

WHEREAS, the City of University Place is substantially developed and a weapon's misfire or mislaid trap could inadvertently cause severe injury and possibly a loss of life; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge any rifle, pistol, shotgun, airgun, bow and arrow, or any instrument of similar character or to hunt or trap within the city limits of the City of University Place.

Section 2. Section 1 of this ordinance does not apply to:

A. Any person engaged in military, law enforcement, or school district security activities;

B. Any person who is involved in a convention, showing, demonstration, lecture, or firearms safety course authorized by school authorities in which the firearms of collectors or instructors are handled or displayed;

C. Any person while the person is participating in a firearms or air gun competition approved by the school or school district;

D. Any person engaging in practice in the use of a firearm or target shooting at an established range authorized by the City of University Place, or any other area where the discharge of a firearm is not prohibited.

Section 3. Nothing in this ordinance prohibits an individual from discharging a weapon in self-defense at his or her residence.

Section 4. All terms in this ordinance have their normal and customary definitions, or as defined in RCW 77.08.

Section 5. Any person who violates any of the provisions of Sections 1 and 2 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Section 6. This ordinance, passed by a majority plus one of the whole membership of the City Council as a public emergency ordinance necessary for the protection of the public health, public safety, public property, or public peace, shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

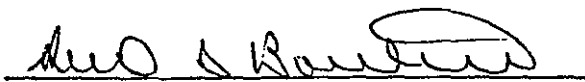
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 2, 1995.


Mayor Stanley L. K. Flemming

ATTEST:


Susan Matthew, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Robert J. Backstein, City Attorney

Date of Publication: October 4, 1995

Effective Date: October 2, 1995