

Plymouth City Ordinance

965.05 Carrying of Dangerous Weapons and Facsimile Firearms Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person within the City to carry on or about his or her person or transport in any vehicle any dangerous weapon or facsimile firearm, except:

- a) Any dangerous weapon or facsimile firearm being transported by a person not in a vehicle directly to or from his or her vehicle, in a secured container.
- b) Transportation of any dangerous weapon or facsimile firearm in or upon any motor vehicle in a secured container or in the locked trunk of such a vehicle.

The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to the transport of dangerous weapons or facsimile firearms by persons who are regularly engaged in the lawful manufacture, distribution or sale at retail or wholesale of dangerous weapons or facsimile firearms, or the agents of any of them while engaged in such business; to the carrying or transport of dangerous weapons or facsimile firearms by licensed, full-time peace officers, law enforcement officers, or military personnel while in the course of their duties; to persons holding a permit to carry a dangerous weapon acting within the scope of such permit; to any officer of a state adult correctional facility when on guard duty or otherwise engaged in an assigned duty; or to an owner or agent while he or she is present at a business place that he or she operates.

Plymouth City Ordinance

965.07 Aiming Prohibited.

Except as authorized by law, the aiming of any dangerous weapon or facsimile firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, at or toward any human being, building or occupied vehicle is prohibited.

Questions?

Call (763) 509-5160

Reporting Complaints

Dial 9-1-1 at the time of the offense, and a police officer will respond.



Adding Quality to Life

Plymouth Police Department

3400 Plymouth Blvd.
Plymouth, MN 55447
763-509-5160 (office)
plymouthmn.gov

Emergency: 9-1-1
Non-Emergency: 763-525-6210



Facsimile Firearms and “Look Alike” Weapons

A Guide for Parents and Children

Background

In 2008, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office announced a program to combat youth violence, *The Juvenile Gun Offender Program*. The initiative of the program is to reduce gun-related violence. In addition, mandatory sanctions were adopted to better work with youth who are caught with firearms.

At the same time, police are increasingly coming into contact with individuals who are carrying air guns, pellet guns, and facsimile firearms, which appear in many circumstances to be real weapons.

In cooperation with *The Juvenile Gun Offender Program*, Plymouth has adopted an ordinance to tighten regulations governing the possession of facsimile weapons, as well as weapons like air guns and pellet guns.

The Issue

Air guns, pellet guns, and facsimile weapons all pose risks for officers and the general public. Many of the newer air guns and pellet guns can cause as great of an injury as any firearm, and they can even kill.

Moreover, when a police officer comes into contact with an individual carrying an air gun, pellet gun, or facsimile weapon, the officer has to assume the weapon is real and that it poses a danger not only to themselves, but to the public in general. This can, and has, forced officers to take action to protect themselves and others.

The Plymouth ordinance is aimed at preventing a tragedy and it is also a reminder that *regardless of weapon type*, it is never safe to discharge any firearm in the city.

Definitions

Dangerous Weapon

Any firearms, air gun or pellet gun, whether loaded or unloaded, or any device designed as a weapon and capable of producing death or great bodily harm, or any other device or instrumentality which, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is calculated or likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Facsimile Firearm

Any object which is a replica of an actual firearm, which substantially duplicates an actual firearm, unless:

1. The entire exterior surface of such object is colored white, bright red, bright orange, bright yellow, bright green, bright blue, bright pink or bright purple, either singly or as the predominant color in combination with other colors in any pattern, or such object is constructed entirely of transparent or translucent materials which permit unmistakable observation of the object's complete contents; and
2. Such object has a blaze orange extension that extends at least six (6) millimeters from the muzzle end of the barrel of such object which is as an integral part of the object and is permanently affixed; and
3. Such object does not have a laser pointer attached to it.



Especially for Parents

It is not the intent of the Plymouth Police Department to be chasing around kids who are playing, "Cops and Robbers." However, it is important for parents and children to understand the dangers inherent in playing with air guns, pellet guns and any type of realistic looking guns, whether the gun can actually fire a projectile or not.

Please take the time to discuss the dangers with your children.

- ✓ Air guns and pellet guns can cause injuries. They can even kill.
- ✓ Carrying dangerous weapons or realistic looking guns is illegal.
- ✓ It is illegal to point any dangerous weapon (whether loaded or unloaded) or any realistic looking gun at a person, building, or occupied vehicle.
- ✓ It is illegal to fire any projectile.

In the past, we have had to respond to children who have been injured by air guns and pellet guns. These accidents are 100% preventable. Working together, we can prevent tragedies from occurring.