

TITLE III COMMUNITY PROTECTION

CHAPTER 1 OFFENSES

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3-1-1 VIOLATIONS OF CHAPTER. Commission of any of the acts named in the following sections by any person shall constitute a violation of this chapter.

3-1-2 PUBLIC PEACE. It shall be unlawful for any person to do any of the following:

1. Engage in fighting or violent behavior or invite or defy another person to fight, provided that participants in athletic contests may engage in such conduct which is reasonably related to that sport.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 723.4(1))

2. Make unusually loud or excessive noise which results in the disturbance of the peace and the public quiet of a neighborhood.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 723.4(2))

3. Willfully permit upon any premises owned, occupied, possessed or controlled by such person any unusually loud or excessive noise in such a manner calculated to provoke a breach of the peace of others, or the public quiet of the neighborhood.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 723.4(2))

4. Direct abusive language or make any threatening gesture which the person knows or reasonably should know is likely to provoke a violent reaction by another.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 723.4(3))

5. Without lawful authority or order of authority, disturb any lawful assembly or meeting of persons by conduct intended to disrupt the meeting or assembly.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 723.4(4))

6. Without authority, obstruct any street, sidewalk, highway or other public way.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 723.4(7))

7. Without authority, solicit contributions, distribute literature, or otherwise peddle or sell goods and services within the traveled portion of any roadway.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12(2)(a))

8. No person shall operate the engine providing motive power, or an auxiliary engine, of a motor vehicle with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand (10,000) pounds or more for a consecutive period longer than twenty (20) minutes while such vehicle is standing and located within

one hundred fifty feet (150') (45m) of property zoned and used for residential purposes except where such vehicle is standing within a completely enclosed structure. This Section shall not apply to delivery or pickup vehicles that require the operation of the engine to unload or load their vending loads or to refrigeration units on trailers.

3-1-3 PUBLIC MORALS. Indecent exposure. It shall be unlawful for any person to expose such person's genitals, pubes, female nipples, or buttocks to another if the person knows or reasonably should know that such behavior would be offensive to a reasonable person.

3-1-4 PUBLIC MORALS. Urinating and Defecating. It is unlawful for any person to urinate or defecate onto any sidewalk, street, alley, or other public way, or onto any public or private building, including but not limited to the wall, floor, hallway, steps, stairway, doorway or window thereof, or onto any public or private land.

3-1-5 STREETS.

1. Removal of safeguards or danger signals. No person shall willfully remove, tear down, destroy, deface, or carry away from any highway, street, alley, avenue or bridge any lamp, obstruction, guard or other article or things, or extinguish any lamp or other light, erected or placed thereupon for the purpose of guarding or enclosing unsafe or dangerous places in said highway, street, alley, avenue or bridge without the consent of the person in control thereof.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.5)

2. Obstructing or defacing streets. No person shall obstruct, deface, or injure any public road in any manner by breaking up, plowing or digging within the boundary lines thereof, without permission from the Mayor.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

3. Allowing water, snow, ice and accumulations on sidewalk. No abutting property owner shall allow water from an improperly located eave or drain, or from any roof, to fall onto a public sidewalk, or fail to remove snow, ice and accumulations from the sidewalks promptly. Upon failure by the abutting property owner to perform the action required under this subsection within a reasonable time, the City may perform the required action and assess the costs against the abutting property.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12(2)(b and e))

4. Removal of hydrant caps, sewer caps or manhole covers. No person shall remove or carry away hydrant caps, sewer caps or manhole covers without the consent of the person in control thereof.

3-1-6 PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH.

1. Expectorating. No person shall expectorate on the ground or in any structure within the City limits.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.1)

2. Putting debris on streets and sidewalks. No person shall throw or deposit on any street or sidewalk any glass bottle, glass, nails, tacks, wire, cans, trash, garbage, rubbish, litter, offal, or any other debris, or any other substance, which the person knows or has reason to know may injure any person, animal or vehicle.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.369)

3. Littering and Penalties.

a. It is unlawful for any person to throw or deposit or allow to be thrown or deposited, any garbage, refuse, litter, or yard waste, into or upon any public or private property, or in or upon any public or private, property, or in or upon any motor vehicle or bicycle while parked on public property.

b. No person shall operate any motor vehicle or bicycle is adequately secured to prevent the dropping or shifting of materials from such load onto the roadway.

c. Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the following terms shall have the meanings stated:

(1) "Garbage" means every waste accumulation of animal, fruit or vegetable matter, liquid or otherwise, that attends the preparation, use, cooking, dealing in or storing of meat, fish, fowl, fruit or vegetables, and including tin cans or similar food containers.

(2) "Litter" means any organic or inorganic waste material, or portion thereof, which has been discarded, whether made of aluminum, glass, plastic, rubber, paper or other natural or synthetic material, or any combination thereof, including, but not limited to, any bottle, jar or can, hull, cigarette, cigar, match, newspapers, magazines, advertisements, dead animals, or intentionally or unintentionally discarded material of any kind.

(3) "Public or Private Property" means the right of way of any road or highway; any body of water or watercourse or the shores or beaches thereof; any park, playground, building, grounds of public buildings, public sidewalks and walkways, refuge, or conservation or recreation area; timberlands or forests; and residential, commercial, industrial, or farm properties.

(4) "Refuse" means all other miscellaneous waste materials except "yard waste" not specifically defined as garbage or litter.

(5) "Yard Waste" means debris including, but not limited to, grass clippings, Leaves, garden waste, brush, trees, and tree stumps.

d. Violation of this section shall be a municipal infraction punishable by a penalty of \$250.00 for each violation.

e. Alternatively, a violation of this section can be charged by a peace officer of the City as a simple misdemeanor.

4. False alarms. No person shall give or cause to be given any false alarm of a fire, nor set fire to any combustible material, or cry or sound an alarm or by any other means without cause.

5. Stench bombs. No person shall throw, drop, pour, explode, deposit, release, discharge or expose any stench bomb or tear bomb, or any liquid, gaseous or solid substance or matter of any kind that is injurious to persons or property, or that is nauseous, sickening, irritating or offensive to any of the senses in, on or about a theater, restaurant, car, structure, place of business, or amusement, or any place of public assemblage, or attempt to do any of these acts, or prepare or possess such devices or materials with intent to do any of these acts. This provision shall not apply to duly constituted police, military

authorities, or peace officers in the discharge of their duties, or to licensed physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other similar persons licensed under the laws of this State; nor to any established place of business or home having tear gas installed as a protection against burglary, robbery or holdup, nor to any bank or other messenger carrying funds or other valuables.

6. Discharging firearms and fireworks.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 727.2)

a. No person, firm, or corporation shall discharge or fire any cannon, gun, bomb, pistol, air gun, or other firearms or set off or burn firecrackers, torpedoes, sky rockets, roman candles, or other fireworks of like construction or any fireworks containing any explosive or flammable compound, or other device containing any explosive.

b. The City Council may upon application in writing, grant a permit for the display and use of fireworks by any organization or groups of individuals when such fireworks display will be handled by a competent operator.

c. The City Council may, upon application in writing, grant a permit for the operation of a firing range in which the discharge of firearms for training, recreational or competitive events would be allowed upon showing that the range would be under the direction of a competent organization, group or individual.

d. In the interest of public health and safety and at such times as approved by the Chief of Police, the police or their designee may use firearms to control rodent or animal problems when it is evident that conventional control methods have not resolved the problem.

e. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the use of blank cartridges for a show or the theatre, or for signal purposes in athletic sports or by railroads, or trucks, for signal purposes, or by a recognized military organization and provided further that nothing in this section shall apply to any substance or composition prepared and used for medicinal or fumigation purposes.

7. Abandoned refrigerators. No person shall place, or allow to be placed, any discarded, abandoned, unattended or unused refrigerator, ice box or similar container equipped with an air-tight door or lid, snap lock, or other locking device which cannot be released from the inside, in a location accessible to children, outside any building, dwelling, or within an unoccupied or abandoned building or dwelling, or other structure, under such person's control without first removing the door, lid, snap lock, or other locking device from said icebox, refrigerator or similar container. This provision applies equally to the owner of any such refrigerator, icebox or similar container, and to the owner or occupant of the premises where the hazard is permitted to remain.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 727.3)

8. Impersonating an officer. No person shall falsely represent themselves or falsely assume to be any law enforcement officer, judge or magistrate. It shall be unlawful to wear or adopt the uniform or insignia of any law enforcement officer on any street or public place.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 718.2)

9. Harassment of City Employees.

a. It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully prevent, resist or obstruct or attempt to prevent, resist or obstruct any City employee from the performance of any official duty.

b. It shall be unlawful for any person to communicate by any means, any threat of bodily or property harm to any City employee or to any member of the employee's family during the course of, or as a result of, the performance of any official duty by said City employee.

10. Antenna and radio wires. No person shall allow, locate or maintain any antenna wires, antenna supports, radio wires or television wires to exist over any street, alley, highway, sidewalk or public property.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12(2))

11. Barbed wire. No person shall install, allow to be installed or use barbed wire without the consent of the City Council.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.1)

12. Playing in streets. No person shall coast, sled or play games on streets or highways except in areas blocked off by the Chief of Police for such purposes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12)

3-1-7 PUBLIC PROPERTY.

1. Defacing public grounds. No person shall cut, break or deface any tree or shrub in a public park or on any avenue thereto by willfully defacing, cutting, breaking or injuring, except by the authority of the Mayor.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12(2))

2. Injuring new pavement. No person shall injure new pavement in any street, alley or sidewalk by willfully driving, walking or making marks on such pavement.

(Code of Iowa, 364.12(2))

3. Destroying park equipment. No person shall destroy or injure any property or equipment in public swimming pools, playgrounds or parks by willfully defacing, breaking, damaging, mutilating or cutting.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12(2))

4. Injury to public library books or property. No person shall willfully or recklessly tear, deface, mutilate, injure or destroy, in whole or in part, any newspaper, periodical, book, map, pamphlet, chart, picture or other property belonging to any public library or reading room.

5. Defacing or destroying proclamations or notices. No person shall intentionally deface, obliterate, tear down or destroy in whole or in part any transcript or extract from or of any law of the United States or of this State, or any proclamation, advertisement or notification, set up at any place within the City by authority of law or by order of any court, during the time for which the same is to remain set up.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

6. Injury to gravestones or property in cemetery. No person shall willfully or recklessly destroy, mutilate, deface, injure or remove any tomb, vault, monument, gravestone or other structure placed in any public or private cemetery, or any fences, railing or other work for the protection, ornamentation of

said cemetery, or of any tomb, vault, monument or gravestone, or other structure aforesaid, on any cemetery lot within such cemetery, or willfully and maliciously destroy, cut, break or injure any tree, shrub, plant or lawn within the limits of said cemetery, or drive outside of said avenues and roads, and over the grass or graves of said cemetery.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

7. Injury to fire apparatus. No person shall willfully destroy or injure any engines, hose carriage, hose, hook and ladder carriage, or other things used and kept for extinguishment of fires.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

8. Injury to city ambulance or paramedic apparatus. No person shall willfully destroy or injure any ambulance or paramedic unit, equipment or other things used to administer medical care.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

9. Obstructing or defacing roads. No person shall obstruct, deface or injure any public road by breaking up, plowing or digging within the boundary lines thereof, except by written authorization of the Mayor.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

10. Injury to roads, railways, and other utilities. No person shall injure, remove or destroy any electric railway or apparatus belonging thereto, or any bridge, rail or plank road; or place or cause to be placed, any obstruction on any electric railway, or on any such bridge, rail or plank road; or willfully obstruct or injure any public road or highway; or cut, burn, or in any way break down, injure or destroy any post or pole used in connection with any system of electric lighting, electric railway, or telephone or telegraph system; or break down and destroy or injure and deface any electric light, telegraph or telephone instrument; or in any way cut, break or injure the wires of any apparatus belonging thereto; or willfully without proper authorization tap, cut, injure, break, disconnect, connect, make any connection with, or destroy any of the wires, mains, pipes, conduits, meters or other apparatus belonging to, or attached to, the power plant or distributing system of any electric light plant, electric motor, gas plant or water plant; or aid or abet any other person in so doing.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

11. Tapping into Utility Transmission Cables. No person shall connect to any transmission cable without first obtaining permission from the owner of the cable.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 727.8)

12. Obstructing ditches and breaking levees. No person shall divert, obstruct, impede, or fill up, without legal authority, any ditch, drain, or watercourse, or break down any levee established, constructed, or maintained under any provision of law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

13. Property and Abutting Property Maintenance. The abutting property owner shall maintain the border area defined as all property outside the lot and property lines and inside the curb lines and drainage area adjacent to the public streets of the City of Rockwell, Iowa. The abutting property owner shall maintain the border area free from defects, garbage, junk, rubbish, debris, solid waste, nuisances, obstructions or other hazards. The abutting property owner shall maintain the border area including ditches and culverts within the border area free of debris and allow for adequate water flow and drainage of water that comes into the border area. The abutting property owner shall not be required to remove diseased trees or dead or fallen tree limbs. The abutting property owner may be liable for damages caused by failure to maintain the border area. This section shall not apply to multi-use recreational trails,

traffic control devices, traffic signs, parking meters, newspaper boxes, United States postal boxes, or boxes erected for home delivery. This section shall not apply to street trees planted in the border area in conformance with city standards, provided they do not constitute a safety hazard, obstruction of view or nuisance.

3-1-8 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS.

1. A person shall not use or explode Consumer Fireworks on days other than July 3rd through July 4th of each year, all dates inclusive.
2. A person shall not use or explode Consumer Fireworks at times other than between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on the July dates.
3. All fireworks will cease fifteen minutes prior to and after the community display.
4. A person shall not use Consumer Fireworks on real property other than that person's real property or on the real property of a person who has consented to the use of Consumer Fireworks on that property.
5. Persons using or exploding Consumer Fireworks must be at least eighteen (18) years of age or older.
6. Persons using or exploding Consumer Fireworks are prohibited from being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs or a combination of such substances, while having a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or more or while having any amount of a controlled substance in the person's body.
7. No use or explosion of Consumer Fireworks is allowed on any public property, including parks, cemeteries, public rights-of-way, public parking lots, or sidewalks.
8. A person who violates this subsection commits a simple misdemeanor.

3-1-9 SEIZURE OF FIREWORKS.

1. The County Sheriff may seize, take, remove, or cause to be removed, at the expense of the owner, all Consumer Fireworks or Display Fireworks, offered or exposed for sale, used, stored, possessed, or held in violation of this Chapter.

3-1-10 EMERGENCY.

1. When, in the opinion of the Fire Chief, weather and soil conditions create a safety emergency so that the use of Consumer Fireworks and/or Display Fireworks creates a danger to the public or property, the Fire Chief may suspend, cancel, or prohibit the use of Consumer Fireworks and/or Display Fireworks.