The Urban Area Boundaries

The newly revised urban area (again, that portion of the County where the discharge of firearms is generally prohibited) is defined as "that part of the County within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point where the Maryland/District of Columbia boundary line in the County intersects with the Maryland/Virginia boundary line on the southwest side of the Potomac River; running then northwest along the Maryland/Virginia boundary line to the emptying of Watts Branch into the Potomac River; then northwest along the northeast side of the Potomac River to the entrance of Seneca Creek into the Potomac River; then north along Seneca Creek to Route 172 (Seneca Road); then east along Route 112 to Route 28 (Darnestown Road); then northwest along Route 28 to Route 112 (Darnestown-Germantown Road); then south along Route 112 to Route 117 (Copper Road); then northwest along Route 117 to Little Seneca Creek; then northeast along Little Seneca Creek to Black Hill Regional Park; then along the eastern boundary of Black Hill Regional Park to the Park's southeastern intersection with I 270; then northwest along I 270 to Little Seneca Creek; then north along Little Seneca Creek to West Old Bailey Road; then east along West Old Bailey Road to I 270 (Springfield Boulevard); then south along Route 355 to I 270 (Arlington Boulevard); then east along Route 108 to the Potomac Electric Power Company transmission line property; then southeast along the east side of the Potomac Electric Power Company right-of-way to Route 198 (Sandy Spring Road); then east along Route 198 to the Prince George's County/Montgomery County boundary line; then southwest along the Montgomery County/Prince George's County boundary line to the Montgomery County/District of Columbia boundary line; then along the Montgomery County/District of Columbia boundary line to the place of beginning."

MONTGOMERY COUNTY WEAPONS LAW

The ownership, possession, and use of weapons within Montgomery County, Maryland, is limited by the County weapons laws. This pamphlet is a summary of the major provisions of the County weapons laws and is provided for information only. Copies of the actual ordinance, Chapter 57, titled "Weapons," of the Montgomery County Code, can be obtained from the Office of the County Attorney, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, Maryland 20850, or at regional libraries.

The County is divided, for the purpose of the law, into two areas, which have different restraints on weapons and their usage. The discharge of guns is totally prohibited within the urban area as shown on the map on the reverse side of this pamphlet, with some specific exceptions as noted below. The law also places some limits on the discharge of bows inside and outside the urban area. In addition, the law includes limitations on the discharge of bows that apply both inside and outside the urban area.

In view of the continued growth and development which takes place in the County it is necessary, for the protection and welfare of our residents and communities, to review the urban area boundary on a regular basis. The urban area boundary can be changed through the normal legislative process. The current boundary has been in place since May 15, 1997.

DISCHARGE OF GUNS

Inside the Urban Area

Other than under the exceptions noted in this summary, a person must not discharge a gun within the urban area (see map inside this brochure), whether the gun is loaded with blank or live cartridges, or loaded with blank or live ammunition from a rifle or pistol of any caliber higher than a .25 caliber, or discharge a full metal jacketed bullet of any caliber from any gun. Fixed ammunition is defined as any ammunition composed of a full metal jacketed bullet and an explosive charge, and a primer, all of which shall be contained as one unit. Hunters are advised that breech loading rifles may not be used to hunt deer in Montgomery County pursuant to Maryland hunting regulations. The person must not discharge a gun inside the urban area boundary.

Outside the Urban Area

...
The urban area (again, that portion of the county where the discharge of firearms is generally prohibited) is defined as "that part of the County within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point where the Maryland/District of Columbia boundary line in the County intersects with the Maryland/Virginia boundary line on the southwest side of the Potomac River; running then northwest along the Maryland/Virginia boundary line to the emptying of Watts Branch into the Potomac River; then northwest along the northeast side of the Potomac River to the emptying of Seneca Creek into the Potomac River; then north along Seneca Creek to the Montgomery County/District of Columbia boundary line; then along the Montgomery County/District of Columbia boundary line to the place of beginning."