

**SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP  
SCOTT COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**ORDINANCE NO. 15-003**

**ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS  
IN THE AREA OF RICE LAKE AND SPRING LAKE WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP**

SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP, SCOTT COUNTY, MINNESOTA HEREBY ORDAINS:

**Section 1. Authority.**

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority stated in Minn. Stat. Chapter 366.

**Section 2. Statement of Purpose.**

The Town Board finds that the discharge of firearms within residential and recreational areas of the township creates public safety and welfare concerns for its residents. The discharge of firearms, whether for hunting, target practice or otherwise, create potential for public nuisance noise and the potential for projectiles to damage property or injure persons within the township. The Town Board deems that it is in the public interest to protect property and to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of its residents within the township by prohibiting the discharge of firearms on or near Rice and Spring Lakes as they are in the area of platted residential areas within the township.

**Section 3. Definition.**

“Firearm” is defined as any gun or device that discharges a projectile or shot by means of an explosive, a gas, or compressed air.

“Ordinary High Water Elevation” is defined as the elevation delineating the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial.

**Section 4. Prohibition.**

The discharge of a firearm is prohibited on or within the boundaries of Rice Lake and Spring Lake and within 300 feet inland of the ordinary high water elevation thereof. No firearm shall be discharged so that the projectile or shot falls within the boundaries of Rice Lake, Spring Lake or within 300 feet inland of the ordinary high water elevation of either lake.

**Section 5. Exception.**

This ordinance shall not apply to any game warden or law enforcement official employed by the State of Minnesota, a political subdivision thereof, or the federal government and who discharges a firearm in the course of official duties.

**Section 6. Penalty.**

Any person violating this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to the maximum penalties therefor under Minnesota law.

**Section 7. Separability.**

It is hereby declared to be the intention that the several provisions of this ordinance are separable in accordance with the following: If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge any provision of this ordinance to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect any other provisions of this ordinance not specifically included in said judgment.

**Section 8. Summary approved.**

The Town Board hereby determines that the text of the summary marked “Official Summary of Ordinance No. 15- 003”, a copy of which is attached hereto, clearly informs the public of the intent and effect of the ordinance. The Town Board further determines that publication of the title and such summary will clearly inform the public of the intent and effect of the ordinance.

**Section 9. Filing.**

The Town Clerk shall file a copy of this ordinance in her office, which copy shall be available for inspection by any person during regular office hours.

**Section 10. Publication.**

The Town Clerk shall publish the title of this ordinance and the official summary in the official newspaper of the Township with notice that a printed copy of the ordinance is available for inspection by any person during regular office hours at the office of the Town Clerk.

**Section 11. Effective date.**

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication.

Adopted by the Town Board of Spring Lake Township, this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

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Doug Berens  
Chair, Spring Lake Town Board

ATTEST:

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Kathy Nielsen  
Clerk, Spring Lake Town Board

**OFFICIAL SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 15-003**

**ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS  
IN THE AREA OF RICE LAKE AND SPRING LAKE WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP**

The following is the official summary of Ordinance No. 15-003 as approved by the Board of Supervisors for the Spring Lake Township on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015:

The ordinance prohibits the discharge of a firearm on or within the boundaries of Rice Lake and Spring Lake and within 300 feet inland of the ordinary high water elevation thereof. Further, no firearm shall be discharged so that the projectile or shot falls within the boundaries of Rice Lake, Spring Lake or within 300 feet inland of the ordinary high water elevation of either lake. Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor.

A printed copy of the ordinance is available for inspection by any person during regular office hours at the office of the Town Clerk at the Spring Lake Township Town Hall at 20381 Fairlawn Avenue, Prior Lake, Minnesota.

Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.