



Hermitage Precinct

Summer Crime Prevention Tips and Information

We generally like to relax during the warmer months of the year, but criminals are never on vacation, so take a little time to protect your property and valuables with these commonsense measures. Included are some Metro Ordinances that may help keep you safe and informed.



- Make sure your home is secured when you are home, as well as when you leave. Lock all doors and set the alarm if you have one.
- Keep your garage door closed unless you are in the immediate area. Many bicycles, lawn mowers, tools, vehicles and other various items are stolen from open garages each year. An open garage door or an attached garage also creates easier access to your home for burglars.
- Do not leave your garage door remote, purse, wallet, laptop, extra keys, etc. in your vehicle.
- Check your property daily and pick up any trash or debris. Check your lighting weekly and repair or replace any broken lights. Having unkempt property sends the message that you don't care.

- Make sure your landscaping is maintained; trees should be trimmed seven feet up from the ground and bushes should not be higher than three feet. Unkempt landscaping creates hiding places for criminals.
- Report every crime, every time: Report all criminal activity promptly to the police. If you do not report your property stolen, we cannot recover it and we cannot charge a suspect in possession of that property with a crime. Additionally, if the police do not know that crimes are occurring in your area we will not know where to focus our patrols.
- Watch out for your neighbors. Let your neighbors know that they have left their garage door open or their vehicle is running. Also, let your neighbors know if you have been a victim of any type of crime so that they are aware of criminal activity in your neighborhood.

Fireworks Ordinance

10.68.020 Use restrictions—Permits granted when. Except as hereinafter provided, no person, firm, partnership or corporation shall offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail, keep with intent to sell at retail, or use or explode any fireworks in Davidson County; provided, that the fire marshal of the metropolitan government of Nashville and Davidson County may adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the granting of permits for supervised displays of fireworks by fair associations, amusement parks, and other organizations or groups of individuals.

10.68.070 Seizure authorized when.

The fire marshal shall seize, take, remove or cause to be removed at the expense of the owner all stocks of fireworks or combustibles offered or exposed for sale, stored or held in violation of this chapter. The fire marshal shall store and maintain seized fireworks and dispose of them as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction. Seized fireworks shall in no event be returned to the person from whom seized until all appellate remedies are exhausted. The confiscation and forfeiture of fireworks being an action “in rem,” the metropolitan government of Nashville and Davidson County shall have the right to appeal an order restoring the seized fireworks to the person from whom seized. (Prior code § 17-1-37)

10.68.090 Violation and penalty.

Any person, firm, partnership or corporation violating the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars

Juvenile Curfew Ordinance

11.28.210 - Curfew for juveniles.

It shall be unlawful for any person seventeen years of age or less [under eighteen] to be or remain in or upon a public place, or a private place without consent of the property owner, leasee or a person of apparent authority acting on behalf of the leasee or owner, in Davidson County during the period ending at 5:00 a.m. and beginning:

A. At 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 12:00 midnight Friday and Saturday between September 1st and May 31st, and

B. At 12:00 midnight between June 1st and August 31st.

11.28.220 - Defenses.

The following shall constitute defenses to violations charged under this article:

This article shall not apply:

A. When a juvenile is accompanied by a parent of the juvenile.

B. When a juvenile is accompanied by an adult authorized by a parent of the juvenile to take the parent's place in accompanying the juvenile for a designated period of time and purpose within a specified area.

C. When the juvenile is on an errand as directed by the parent until the hour of 12:30 a.m.

D. When a juvenile is exercising First Amendment rights protected by the United States Constitution, such as the free exercise of religion, freedom of speech, and the right of assembly. Such activity shall constitute an exception to this chapter when prior to such activity a written notice of the date, time, and place of the activity, signed by the juvenile and, if practicable, a parent of the juvenile, together with the name and address of the juvenile, has been received by the Chief of Police or a person designated by him to receive such information.

E. Until the hour of 12:30 a.m. if the juvenile is on the property of or the sidewalk directly adjacent to the place where such juvenile resides or a place immediately adjacent to the juveniles' residence if the owner of the adjacent property has given consent.

F. When a juvenile is attending, or traveling directly to or from home without detour or stop, from an official activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the Metropolitan Government, a religious or civic organization, or another similar adult supervised entity that takes responsibility for the juvenile.

G. In the case of reasonable necessity, but only after the juvenile's parent has communicated to law enforcement personnel the facts establishing the reasonable necessity, as well as the origin, destination and route of travel, the time of travel, and the place of the activity. Proof of the communication, including a notation of the time it was received by law enforcement, names and addresses of the parent and juvenile, and the police personnel notified, constitute evidence of qualification under this exception. This may be handled by telephone or other effective communication.

H. While the juvenile is engaged in legal employment and for the period from forty-five minutes before to forty-five minutes after work, while going directly between the juvenile's home and place of employment. The juvenile must be carrying written evidence of employment which is issued by the employer;

I. When the juvenile is engaged in normal interstate travel with parental consent.

11.28.230 - Parental responsibility.

A. It shall be unlawful for a parent of a juvenile to permit, either knowingly or negligently, the juvenile to remain in or on any public place, or private place without consent of the property owner, in Davidson County under circumstances not constituting an exception listed in [Section 11.28.220](#) herein. The term "knowingly" includes knowledge that a parent should reasonably be expected to have concerning the whereabouts of a juvenile in that parent's legal custody. This requirement is intended to hold a neglectful or careless parent up to a reasonable community standard of parental responsibility through an objective test. It shall, therefore, be no defense that a parent was completely indifferent to the activities or conduct or whereabouts of such juvenile.

B. If a juvenile satisfies an exception under [Section 11.28.220](#), the juvenile's parent may not be prosecuted under this parental responsibility section.

Metro Ordinance for Solicitation

Solicitation Permits

In Davidson County, any company conducting residential door-to-door solicitation of any goods, wares, merchandise, or services must first apply for a solicitation permit with the Metropolitan Clerk's Office. These permits are valid for two years.

Who is exempt?

- Charitable organizations
- Books sales or other expressive works
- Newspaper or magazine subscriptions

Citizens Rights

- You have the right to ask a solicitor for their identification badge.
- An owner or lawful occupant may [register their property](#) for the "[no knock](#)" list. The address will be on the registry for 365 days.

6.64.010 - Permit required—Exceptions—Violation and penalty.

A. Before any salesman, solicitor or representative engaged in obtaining orders or making sales directly to the consumer or user of goods, wares or merchandise to be delivered immediately or in the future, shall solicit such orders or make such sales in the general services district, he shall obtain a solicitor's permit; provided, that subscriptions to papers or magazines shall be regarded as within the definition of goods, wares, or merchandise.

B. The provisions of this section shall not apply to charitable solicitations or to persons engaged in the sale of daily newspapers and food products. Further, the provisions of this section shall apply only to those persons engaged in door-to-door sales in predominantly residential areas.

C. Violations of the provisions of this section is hereby declared to be a misdemeanor and punishable as provided in Section 1.01.030 of this code.

Metro Park Regulations

(includes ALL lake sites and greenways in Davidson County)

13.24.080 - Hours.

No person shall, under any circumstances, enter for the purpose of remaining therein or remain in any park between the hours of eleven p.m. and one-half hour before sunrise without general or special permission from the board.

13.24.130 - Animals—Running at large.

A. No person owning or being custodian or having control of any animal shall cause or permit such animal to go at large in the park. A dog may be brought into a park; provided, that such dog shall be continuously restrained by a leash not exceeding six feet in length; except, that no dog or other animal shall be permitted in buildings or in zoos, playgrounds, bathing and other areas designated by signs as prohibited areas.

B. Any animal found at large may be seized and impounded or disposed of pursuant to the laws or ordinances of the state and the metropolitan government in relation to the disposal of stray animals on the highways or other public places.

C. No person having the care or charge of any dog or other animal shall permit such animal to enter or drink the water of any drinking fountain, lake or pond in any park except at places designated or maintained therefor.

13.24.230 - Skating and sledding.

A. No person shall use roller skates or in-line skates in any park except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefor, or skate, sled, walk or go upon any ice, or snowshoe or ski or tow persons on skis, sleds or skates, except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefor.

B. No person shall, in any park, coast with hand sleds, bobs, carts or other vehicles, on wheels or runners, except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefor.

C. The operators of roller skates and in-line skates are further subject to the provisions of Metropolitan Code of Laws Chapter 12.58

13.24.090 - Alcoholic beverages.

A. It is unlawful for any person to possess or have under his control any beer, ale or other alcoholic beverages in any park or recreation area under the supervision or control of the board, except under such circumstances, in such places and at such times as the board may, by their rules and regulations,

determine; provided, that in no case may a person possess or have under his control beer, ale or other alcoholic beverages in any playground area, swimming pool, recreation center building or comfort station, except as provided in subsection B of this section. Proof of possession of beer, ale or other alcoholic beverages in a park or recreation area under the supervision and control of the board shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section, and it shall be incumbent upon a person charged to prove by certified copies of the rules and regulations of the board that an exception has been granted.

B. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, ordinances of the metropolitan government, sections of this chapter or private acts, there is permitted the sale and consumption of beer in parks or recreation areas under the supervision and control of the board, subject to the following restrictions:

1. Beer may be sold and consumed only at municipally owned golf courses.
2. All provisions of metropolitan council ordinances and this code pertaining to the sale of beer at retail shall apply to the sale of beer at municipal golf courses; except, that no beer shall be sold after eight p.m. or before eight a.m. weekdays, or before one p.m. on Sundays.
3. Beer and alcoholic beverages may be sold for consumption on premises of any property leased from the board of parks and recreation for use by a professional athletic team. Provided, however, alcoholic beverages may be sold for consumption only in the stadium club or restaurant or in enclosed suites and only when the facilities are being utilized for professional baseball activities. The beer permit shall be valid only when the facilities are being utilized for professional athletic team activities. All distance requirements set forth in Chapter 7.08 of the Metropolitan Code must be met by the applicant prior to issuance of the beer license.
4. Beer may be sold and consumed at special events in parks or recreation areas that are under the supervision and control of the metropolitan board of parks and recreation, subject to their approval, within the boundary described herein as: beginning at the point of the intersection of Interstate 40 and Herman Street, then East to the intersection of Herman Street and 9th Ave. North, then north to the intersection of 9th Ave. North and Jefferson Street, then east to the intersection of Jefferson Street and Interstate 65, then south to the intersection of Interstate 65 and Interstate 40, then west to the point of beginning.