

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 21-103 AND 21-104 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CHESTERFIELD, MISSOURI, RELATING TO THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS OR PROJECTILE WEAPONS TO PROTECT CROPS OR OTHER PROPERTY.**

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that in residential neighborhoods within the City the firing of firearms or projectile weapons to protect crops and other property presents too much risk of injury to people, pets and surrounding property within the City of Chesterfield; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines it is in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare to prohibit the firing of firearms or projectile weapons to protect crops or other property in the City of Chesterfield.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTERFIELD, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section One**

Article VIII of Chapter 21 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Chesterfield, Missouri, is hereby amended by adding one new paragraph (i) to Section 21-103 and amending Section 21-104 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 21. OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

ARTICLE VIII. WEAPONS

Division 2 Section 21-103 Specific actions prohibited

(i): It shall be unlawful to fire or discharge a firearm or a projectile weapon within one hundred fifty (150) yards of a house, dwelling or apartment to protect crops or other property from squirrels, rodents, birds or other small animals.

**Section Two**

CHAPTER 21. OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

ARTICLE VIII. WEAPONS

Division 2, Section 21-104 Exceptions is amended as follows:

The provisions of this Division shall not apply to any police target or police shooting range, nor to any club target, trap, skeet or practice shooting range, nor to the discharge

of firearms where necessary to protect life, livestock, crops or other property, nor to any peace officer or Missouri Department of Conservation employee or those directed by them, acting in the discharge of his official duties, nor to the discharge of blank cartridges in the theatre performances or sporting events, nor to the firing of salutes by firing squads at military ceremonies. This exception shall not allow the discharge of a firearm or projectile weapon to protect crops or other property from squirrels, rodents, birds or other small animals.

**Section Three**

.Nothing in this Ordinance is intended to impede or limit any rights of a person to use deadly force under Missouri's "Castle Doctrine", R.S. Mo. § 563.011-563.031.

**Section Four**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect both from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor

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**MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**CITY CLERK**

FIRST READING HELD: 1/4/2012

2nd READING: 1/18/2012