

**RULES
OF
TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY
WILDLIFE RESOURCES**

**CHAPTER 1660-01-27
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR HUNTER EDUCATION CENTERS
AND PUBLIC FIRING RANGES**

1660-01-27-.01 Public Usage
1660-01-27-.02 Use Permits – Fees
1660-01-27-.03 General Rules
1660-01-27-.04 Repealed

1660-01-27-.05 Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Hunter
Education and Range Facility
1660-01-27-.06 Repealed
1660-01-27-.07 Repealed

1660-01-27-.01 PUBLIC USAGE.

- (1) The state operated Hunter Education Centers are open to the general public for use subject to the following rules:
 - (a) Unattended vehicles shall not be left in such a manner as to deprive or interfere with parking areas or access roads. Offending vehicle(s) may be towed and the driver(s) issued a citation.
 - (b) No person, or persons, shall deface, damage, destroy or remove any equipment, structure, trees, fruits, nuts, crops, or other plants dirt gravel or sod on the area controlled by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.
 - (c) No garbage, rubbish, litter or any refuse, sewage or other material which would pollute said areas or render them unsatisfactory or unsanitary shall be left on the area.
 - (d) No species of wildlife may be molested or hunted on the area unless authorized by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission.
 - (e) Shooting positions will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis.
 - (f) Only the shooter and/or coach may be on the firing line. All others must remain in designated areas for non-shooters.
 - (g) Other uses of the Hunter Education Facilities are subject to approval of the range manager.
 - (h) All incidents resulting in the injury to persons or damage to property must be reported by the person or persons involved as soon as possible to the manager. This report does not relieve persons from the responsibility of making any other accident report that may be required under state law.

Authority: T.C.A. § 70-1-206 and 70-2-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 31, 2000; effective August 14, 2000. Amendments filed July 11, 2011; effective October 9, 2011.

1660-01-27-.02 USE PERMITS – FEES.

- (1) Use Permits – Fees
 - (a) Before any adult may shoot at a Hunter Education Center, such adult must possess a valid permit. This permit must be available for inspection while using the range.

(Rule 1660-01-27-.02, continued)

- (b) Permit fees will be established for each individual center.
- (c) Persons utilizing classrooms or other facilities at hunter education centers will be subject to the same permit fees as shooters unless waived or otherwise specified in this chapter for a particular range.
- (d) The Executive Director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency may allow exceptions to and/or waive use permits and fees for hunter education centers and agency ranges.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-2-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 31, 2000; effective August 14, 2000. Amendment filed July 11, 2011; effective October 9, 2011. Amendment filed March 27, 2015; effective June 25, 2015. A six-day stay of the effective date of the rule was filed March 27, 2015; new effective date July 1, 2015.

1660-01-27-.03 GENERAL RULES. Violation of the following rules may result in a citation and/or expulsion from the range:

- (1) **WATCH THAT MUZZLE.** Keep the muzzle of any firearm pointed in a safe direction at all times. Additional site specific rules may be posted to further clarify muzzle safe zones other than down range such as designated loading areas for muzzle loaders.
- (2) **TREAT EVERY FIREARM AS IF IT WERE LOADED AT ALL TIMES.** It might be even if you think it isn't.
- (3) **BE SURE OF THE TARGET AND WHAT IS IN FRONT OF IT AND BEYOND IT.** Make sure you have an adequate backstop-don't shoot at a flat hard surface or water. Safety zones are defined as an area of protection which may have restricted activities around buildings, firing and archery ranges, roads and other designated areas. All target practice is prohibited except at the designated ranges provided. All unauthorized trespass in the range area is prohibited. Driving into the woods, fields or glades is prohibited.
- (4) **KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER AND OUTSIDE THE TRIGGER GUARD UNTIL READY TO SHOOT.** This is the best way to prevent an accidental discharge.
- (5) **CHECK YOUR BARREL AND AMMUNITION.** Make sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions and carry only the proper ammunition for your firearm. Furthermore, armor piercing ammunition, tracers or any other type of explosive or incendiary ammunition is prohibited.
- (6) **UNLOAD FIREARMS WHEN NOT IN USE.** Leave actions open; carry firearms in cases and unloaded to and from the shooting area. Participants may not carry loaded firearms while within the facilities. Firearms may only be loaded while at the designated shooting stations.
- (7) **POINT A FIREARM ONLY AT SOMETHING YOU INTEND TO SHOOT.** Avoid all horseplay with a gun. Acts of disorderly or unsafe conduct, including acts which interfere with the orderly processes conducted at the Hunter Education Center are prohibited.
- (8) **DON'T RUN, JUMP OR CLIMB WITH A LOADED FIREARM.** Always pull a firearm toward you by the butt, not the muzzle.
- (9) **STORE FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SEPARATELY AND SAFELY.** Store each in secured locations beyond the reach of children and careless adults.

(Rule 1660-01-27-.03, continued)

- (10) AVOID ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING. Participants may not possess any alcoholic beverage, narcotic drug, barbiturate, marijuana or other behavior modifying substance while on the area. No individual may be under the influence of these substances including legal prescription medications at any time while within the facilities.
- (11) Because all firing ranges are unique and site specific, each individual range will operate on a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which will be posted onsite. This SOP will outline numerous aspects of range operation and other site specific items.
- (12) Eye and hearing protection must be worn while on or in the firing range area.
- (13) All participants must check in through the range office.
- (14) Youth under 16 years of age must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at least 21 years of age at all times.
- (15) Only approved paper targets may be used. Paper targets must be placed on frames provided by the Agency. All paper targets, expended rounds and litter must be removed from the range and placed in the appropriate trash and/or recycle receptacles provided.
- (16) Range Safety Officers, where provided, will have control of range safety, activities and persons using the range.
- (17) Range flags or other signaling devices will be displayed while the range is active.
- (18) Domesticated animals are prohibited unless service related.
- (19) Ranges are open only during posted days and hours. The Hunter Education Centers may be used for training or other activities as scheduled during off or non-peak days and hours. The standard individual fee rate will apply for all participants in training events or other activities except for those set out in the SOP. Special activities must be scheduled and approved by the range manager.
- (20) Hunter Education classes are to be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance and hunter education class participants and instructors will not be charged a use fee for the classroom or the required live fire exercise.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-2-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 31, 2000; effective August 14, 2000. Repeal and new rule filed July 11, 2011; effective October 9, 2011.

1660-01-27-.04 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206, 70-2-224, and 70-4-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 31, 2000; effective August 14, 2000. Amendment filed September 15, 2000; effective November 29, 2000. Amendment filed February 10, 2005; effective April 26, 2005. Amendment filed August 19, 2005; effective November 2, 2005. Amendment filed January 2, 2009; effective March 18, 2009. Amendment filed March 27, 2015; effective June 25, 2015. A six-day stay of the effective date of the rule was filed March 27, 2015; new effective date July 1, 2015.

1660-01-27-.05 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-2-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 31, 2000; effective August 14, 2000. Amendment filed September 15, 2000; effective November 29, 2000. Amendment filed June 21, 2002; effective September 4, 2002. Amendment filed February 10, 2005; effective April 26, 2005. Amendment filed May 31, 2013; effective August 29, 2013. Amendment filed

(Rule 1660-01-27-.05, continued)

March 27, 2015; effective June 25, 2015. A six-day stay of the effective date of the rule was filed March 27, 2015; new effective date July 1, 2015.

1660-01-27-.06 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-2-224. **Administrative History:** New rule filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed February 10, 2005; effective April 26, 2005. Amendment filed March 27, 2015; effective June 25, 2015. A six-day stay of the effective date of the rule was filed March 27, 2015; new effective date July 1, 2015.

1660-01-27-.07 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 70-1-206 and §70-2-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed January 29, 2007; effective April 11, 2007. Amendment filed March 27, 2015; effective June 25, 2015. A six-day stay of the effective date of the rule was filed March 27, 2015; new effective date July 1, 2015.