

Draft dated 1/11/2021
RESOLUTION

A resolution of the Missoula City Council on firearm safety.

WHEREAS, firearms ownership and possession is a common part of Montana and Missoula culture; and

WHEREAS, Missoula residents who possess firearms should also be equipped with the knowledge about how to be safe with firearms; and

WHEREAS, such knowledge includes how to safely secure firearms, how to safely handle firearms to prevent misadventure, and how safely, legally and ethically trade firearms privately with others.

WHEREAS, Montana state law at 20-7-132, M.C.A., encourages schools to provide firearms safety education; and

WHEREAS, the Be Safe program is a firearms safety curricula designed for children in First through Third Grade, is approved by the Montana Legislature, is approved by the Office of Public Instruction, and is the most common vehicle for delivery of firearms safety education to children in Montana; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks oversees firearms safety education, Hunter Education, primarily for young and aspiring hunters; and

WHEREAS, hunter education is delivered to interested persons in the spring and in the fall in the Missoula area; and

WHEREAS, several local firearms safety instructors provide firearms safety classes for adults who wish to be safe and competent with firearms; and

WHEREAS, information about these instructors and classes may be found Online and from local sporting goods stores; and

WHEREAS, people who sell or buy firearms privately have a moral and legal obligation to do so properly; and

WHEREAS, a Guide to Private Firearm Sales has been published. (See Attachment A: A Guide to Firearm Sales)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Missoula City Council encourages all Missoula schools to allow presentation of the Be Safe curricula to classrooms of First through Third Grade students. (See Attachment B: MSSA Be Safe Brochure)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Missoula City Council encourages all interested persons to avail themselves of a hunter education training opportunity. <http://fwp.mt.gov/education/> (See Attachment C: Hunter Education Info**)

**Please note that since the hunter's education program materials are updated periodically, the attachment is just a snapshot of the layout and importance of the program. Please visit the Montana Fish and Wildlife website to learn about how to enroll.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Missoula City Council encourages all Missoula people to take advantage of this available education to learn or upgrade knowledge and skills concerning safe firearms storage, possession and use.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Missoula City Council urges anyone contemplating a private sale or purchase of a firearm to review this Guide and make the person's best effort to follow the advice offered in the Guide. (See Attachment A: A Guide to Firearm Sales)

PASSED and ADOPTED this ___ day of _____, 2021.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Martha L. Rehbein
Legislative Services Direct/City Clerk

John Engen
Mayor

(SEAL)