

Note: A maximum knife length is not mentioned in the Ohio Code. Many cities I have looked at have the same wording on knives stating: **“knives having a blade over two and one-half inches in length.”** I believe at one time this length was mentioned in the State of Ohio code but removed. The cities have kept this length as the legal max in their city. It will depend on the reason for the stop. The Police Officer involved and the person involved if a pocket knife over that length will be an issue. Use good judgment. Some cities do have high Capacity Mag bans.

**Akron****[Akron Municipal Code](#)****137.02 Carrying weapons--Concealed weapons.**

A. Weapons Generally. Except as otherwise permitted by law, no person shall carry on or about his person a pistol, a knife having a blade two and one-half inches in length or longer, knuckles, a billy or other dangerous ordnance or deadly *weapon* without proper justification. "Proper justification" includes, but is not limited to, the right of law enforcement officers and other persons specifically authorized by law to be armed within the scope of his or her duties.

<http://ordlink.com/codes/akron/>

**Ashtabula****[Ashtabula Code](#)****549.10 CARRYING CERTAIN WEAPONS PROHIBITED.**

(a) No person shall carry on or about his person any weapon known or designated as brass knuckles, billy, slingshot, sandbag, blackjack or other weapon of similar character, or any knife fitted with a mechanical device for automatic release of the blade, opening the knife and locking the knife in the open position, commonly known as a switch or automatic spring knife, or a knife with a blade two and one-half inches in length or longer.

<http://ci.ashtabula.oh.us/codifiedordinances2.pdf>

**Bedford Heights****[Codified Ordinances of Bedford Heights, Ohio](#)****549.13 Carrying Of Particular Weapons.**

(a) No person shall carry on or about his person any firearm, handgun or dangerous ordnance, or any karate sticks, brass knuckles, blackjacks, billy-clubs, switchblade knives, knives having a

blade over two and one-half inches in length, tear gas, mace or any similar type chemical device or substance designed to incapacitate persons.

(b) This section does not apply to officers, agents or employees of this or any other state of the United States, or to law enforcement officers, authorized to carry weapons or dangerous ordnance and acting within the scope of their duties.

(c) Any affirmative defense available under Section 549.02(c) of the General Offenses Code shall constitute an affirmative defense to a charge under this section, provided that the actor is not otherwise prohibited by law from having such weapon. (Ord. 82-135. Passed 9-21-82.)  
<http://www.conwaygreene.com/Municipal-Codes.htm>

## **Cincinnati**

### **Municipal Code**

City of Cincinnati, Ohio

Codified through

Ord. No. 40-2006 effective March 17, 2006.

(Supplement No. 6, Update 8)

#### **Chapter 708 Sec. 708-37. Possession or Sale of Semiautomatic Firearms Prohibited.**

(a) No person shall sell, deliver, rent, lease, offer, or display for sale, or transfer ownership of, acquire or possess a semiautomatic firearm.

(b) No person shall sell, deliver, rent, lease, offer or display for sale, or transfer ownership of, acquire or possess any detachable magazine with the following capacities:

- (1) More than ten rifle or carbine rounds;
- (2) More than five shotgun rounds;
- (3) More than 15 handgun rounds.

This section does not apply to any detachable magazine purchased or acquired for use with semiautomatic firearms registered pursuant to division (e)(3) of this section.

(c) No person shall sell, deliver, rent, lease, offer or display for sale, or transfer ownership of, acquire or possess any extension tube, drum, cylinder, or magazine capable of increasing the capacity of a fixed or detachable magazine.

(d) This section does not apply to law enforcement officers, agents, or employees of this or any other state or the United States, members of the Armed Forces of the United States or the organized militia of this or any other state, if the acquisition or possession of a semiautomatic firearm is authorized and within the scope of his official duties.

(e) Any person who is legally in possession of a semiautomatic firearm that was legally purchased or acquired before April 1, 1989, shall within 30 days from the effective date hereof:

- (1) Remove said semiautomatic firearm from within the city limits of Cincinnati; or
- (2) Modify said semiautomatic firearm to either render it permanently inoperable or to permanently make it a device no longer defined as a semiautomatic firearm; or
- (3) Register the firearm with the chief of police pursuant to such procedures as the city manager may establish.

<http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/council/pages/-3667-/>

## **Cleveland**

### **Cleveland Code**

Title 1 General Offenses

#### **Chapter 628, Possession or Sale of Assault Weapons Prohibited**

Section 628.02 Definitions

For the purpose of this chapter:

(a) "Assault weapon" means:

- (1) any semiautomatic action, center fire rifle or carbine that accepts a detachable magazine with a capacity of 20 rounds or more;
- (2) any semiautomatic shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than six rounds;
- (3) any semi-automatic handgun that is:
  - A. a modification of a rifle described in division (a) (1), or a modification of an automatic firearm; or
  - B. originally designed to accept a detachable magazine with a capacity of more than 20 rounds.

(4) any firearm which may be restored to an operable assault weapon as defined in divisions (a) (1), (a) (2) or (a) (3).

(5) any part, or combination of parts, designed or intended to convert a firearm into an assault weapon as defined in divisions (a) (1), (a) (2) or (a) (3), or any combination of parts from which an assault weapon as defined in divisions (a) (1), (a) (2) or (a) (3), may be readily assembled if those parts are in the possession or under the control of the same person.

(Look further in Cleveland code for more information)

<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/clevelandcodes/>

## **Columbus**

### **Columbus City Codes**

#### **2323.11 Definitions.**

(F) "Large capacity magazine" means a box, drum, clip or other container which holds more than twenty rounds of ammunition to be fed continuously into a semi-automatic firearm, except a magazine designed to hold only .22 caliber rimfire cartridges.

(G) "Assault weapon" means

(1) Any semiautomatic action, center fire rifle or carbine that accepts a detachable magazine with a capacity of twenty rounds or more;

(2) Any semiautomatic shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than six rounds;

(3) Any semi-automatic handgun that is:

(a) A modification of a rifle described in Division (G)(1), or a modification of an automatic firearm; or

(b) Originally designed to accept a detachable magazine with a capacity of more than twenty rounds.

(4) Any firearm which may be restored to an operable assault weapon as defined in Division (G)(1), (2) or (3) of this section.

(5) Any part, or combination of parts, designed or intended to convert a firearm into an assault weapon as defined in Division (G)(1), (2) or (3) of this section, or any combination of parts from which an assault weapon as defined in Division (G)(1), (2) or (3) of this section, may be readily assembled if those parts are in the possession or under the control of the same person.

(H) Assault weapon does not include any of the following:

(1) Any firearm that uses .22 caliber rimfire ammunition with a detachable magazine with a capacity of twenty rounds or less.

(2) Any assault weapon which has been modified to either render it permanently inoperable or to permanently make it a device no longer defined as an assault weapon.

(I) "Antique firearm" means any firearm manufactured prior to 1898.

(J) "Curio or collectible firearm" means any firearm manufactured fifty (50) or more years ago.

(ORC 2923.11; Ord. 2535-94.)

### **2323.31 Unlawful possession of assault weapons.**

(A) No person shall sell, offer or display for sale, give, lend or transfer ownership of, acquire or possess any assault weapon.

(B) This section does not apply:

(1) To law enforcement officers of the United States, this State, this City, and members of the armed forces of the United States or this state if such person is authorized to acquire or possess an assault weapon and is acting within the scope of his duties;

(2) To the transportation of firearms through the City of Columbus in accordance with federal law;

(3) To any person who lawfully possessed an assault weapon and who registered that assault weapon pursuant to former Columbus City Codes Section 2323.05 in 1989.

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unlawful possession of assault weapons, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted under this section, upon the second conviction the Court shall impose a sentence of imprisonment of at least thirty days, which sentence is mandatory and may not be suspended, modified, or subject to probation during that thirty day period. If the offender has twice previously been convicted under this section, upon the third or more conviction the Court shall impose a sentence of imprisonment of at least ninety days, which sentence is mandatory and may not be suspended, modified, or subject to probation during that ninety day period. (Ord. 2535-94.)

### **2323.32 Unlawful possession of a large capacity magazine.**

- (A) No person shall knowingly possess a large capacity magazine.
- (B) (1) This section does not apply to law enforcement officers of the United States, this State, or City, and members of the armed forces of the United States or this state, if such person is authorized to possess such large capacity magazine and is acting within the scope of his duties ,  
(2) This section does not apply to a large capacity magazine which belongs to a firearm or which is possessed by the owner of a firearm which is registered with federal authorities under the National Firearms Act (26 U.S.C.A. Secs. 5801-5871), or if the large capacity magazine belongs to or is a part of an assault weapon which has been registered under Section 2323.05(C) or has been rendered totally inoperable or inert and the firearm cannot be readily rendered operable or activated and which is kept as a trophy, souvenir, curio or museum piece.
- (C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unlawful possession of a large capacity magazine, a misdemeanor of the first degree. (Ord. 2535-94.)

Columbus laws don't apply to everyone with a Columbus address. Anyone in places like Clintonville, Bexley, etc which are 'within' the city but still have a separate identity are not covered.

Title 23 General Offenses Code

**2323.32 Unlawful possession of a large capacity magazine.**

- (A) No person shall knowingly possess a large capacity magazine.
- (B) (1) This section does not apply to law enforcement officers of the United States, this State, or City, and members of the armed forces of the United States or this state, if such person is authorized to possess such large capacity magazine and is acting within the scope of his duties.  
(2) This section does not apply to a large capacity magazine which belongs to a firearm or which is possessed by the owner of a firearm which is registered with federal authorities under the National Firearms Act (26 U.S.C.A. Secs. 5801-5871), or if the large capacity magazine belongs to or is a part of an assault weapon which has been registered under Section 2323.05(C) or has been rendered totally inoperable or inert and the firearm cannot be readily rendered operable or activated and which is kept as a trophy, souvenir, curio or museum piece.
- (C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unlawful possession of a large capacity magazine, a misdemeanor of the first degree. (Ord. 2535-94.)

<http://ordlink.com/codes/columbus/index.htm>

**Cuyahoga Falls**

**Codified Ordinances of  
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio**

**549.10 CARRYING VARIOUS WEAPONS PROHIBITED; EXCEPTIONS.**

- (a) No person shall carry a pistol, revolver, bowie knife, dirk, stiletto, dagger or other knife having a blade two and one-half inches in length or longer, or a karate stick or nunchakus, knuckles, a billy, blackjack, or bludgeon, or a knife fitted with a mechanical device for automatic release of the blade opening the knife and locking the blade in the open position and commonly known as a switch or automatic spring knife, or any other dangerous weapon on or about the

person without proper justification. "Proper justification" includes, but is not limited to, the right of law enforcement officers and other persons specifically authorized by law to be armed within the scope of his duties. It shall be an affirmative defense to a violation of this section, if it appears that the defendant was at the time engaged in a lawful business, employment or occupation, or that the circumstances in which he was placed justified a prudent man to possess such weapon for the defense of his person, property or family.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

<http://www.conwaygreene.com/Municipal-Codes.htm>

## Dayton

### Code of Ordinances

City of Dayton, Ohio

Codified through

Ord. No. 30471-05, passed Aug. 17, 2005.

(Supplement No. 3)

Title XIII

General Offenses

### **Chapter 138 Weapons and Explosives**

Division 3. Assault Weapons

#### **Sec. 138.24. Definitions.**

For the purposes of §§ 138.24 to 138.27 the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings ascribed to them respectively: Assault weapon means:

(1) Any rifle or carbine:

- (a) With a detachable magazine capable of containing more than ten rounds of ammunition, either inserted into the weapon or readily accessible, or;
- (b) With a permanent magazine capable of containing more than ten rounds of ammunition, or;
- (c) Which is a modification of a rifle or carbine as defined in (A)(1)(a) or (b), above, so as to be able to be fired while being held in one hand.

(2) Any shotgun:

- (a) With a detachable magazine capable of containing more than six rounds of ammunition, either inserted into the weapon or readily accessible, or;
- (b) With a permanent magazine capable of containing more than six rounds of ammunition.

(3) Any handgun:

- (a) With a detachable magazine capable of containing more than 20 rounds of ammunition, either inserted into the weapon or readily accessible, or;
- (b) With a permanent magazine capable of containing more than 20 rounds of ammunition.

(4) Any firearm which may be easily restored to an operable assault weapon as defined in

subsection (A)(1), (A)(2), or (A)(3);

(5) A rifle/carbine magazine, capable of containing more than ten rounds of ammunition, or;

(a) A handgun magazine, capable of containing more than 20 rounds of ammunition, or;

(b) A shotgun magazine capable of containing more than six rounds of ammunition.

(6) Concerning sections (A)(1), (A)(2), (A)(3), (A)(4) and (A)(5); magazines need not be loaded to be in violation of this chapter.

(B) Assault weapon does not include any of the following:

(1) Any firearm that uses .22 caliber rimfire ammunition with a detachable or fixed magazine capable of containing 20 or fewer rounds of ammunition.

(2) Any assault weapon which has been modified to either render it permanently inoperable or to permanently make it a device no longer defined as an assault weapon.

<http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=13723&sid=35%20>

## **Mansfield**

### **Codified Ordinances of Mansfield, Ohio**

#### **549.10 CARRYING OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS.**

(a) No person shall knowingly carry, transport or have ready at hand in or upon any public place any firearm, brass knuckles, blackjack, karate stick, by whatever name known, or any switchblade knife, spring knife or gravity knife, or any similar device or instrument manufactured, fashioned, designed or used as a dangerous or deadly weapon, or a knife having a blade over two and one-half inches in length which is designed or specially adopted for use as a weapon or is possessed, carried or used as a weapon.

(b) As used in this section, "public place" means any place to which the general public has access and a right to resort for business, entertainment or other lawful purpose, but does not necessarily mean a place devoted solely to the uses of the public. It shall include the front or immediate area of any store, shop, restaurant, tavern, or other place of business, and any street, ground, park or other area where persons may congregate.

<http://www.conwaygreene.com/Municipal-Codes.htm>

## **Shaker Heights**

### **City of Shaker Heights Code**

#### **749.11 Possessing Certain Weapons At or About Public Places.**

(a) No person shall knowingly carry, have in his or her possession or ready at hand any firearm, handgun, dangerous ordnance, shotgun, rifle, karate sticks, brass knuckles, blackjacks, billyclubs, switchblade knives or knives having a blade over two and one-half (2 1/2) inches in

length, or any device or instrument manufactured, fashioned or designed as a deadly weapon, while at or about a public place.

(b) As used in this section, "public place" means any place to which the general public has access and a right to resort for business, entertainment or other lawful purpose, but does not necessarily mean a place devoted solely to the uses of the public. It also includes the front or immediate area of any store, shop, restaurant, tavern or other place of business and any grounds, areas or parks where persons would congregate.

<http://www.conwaygreene.com/Municipal-Codes.htm>

## **Tallmadge**

### **Codified Ordinances of Tallmadge, Ohio**

#### **549.13 Carrying Of Dangerous Weapons.**

(a) No person shall knowingly carry, transport or have ready at hand in or upon any public place any firearm, brass knuckles, blackjack, karate stick, by whatever name known, throwing star, or any switchblade knife, spring knife, gravity knife, ballistic knife, butterfly knife, or any similar device or instrument manufactured, fashioned, designed or used as a dangerous or deadly weapon, or a knife having a blade over two and one-half inches in length which is designed or specially adopted for use as a weapon or is possessed, carried or used as a weapon.

(b) As used in this section, "public place" means any place to which the general public has access and a right to resort for business, entertainment or other lawful purpose, but does not necessarily mean a place devoted solely to the uses of the public, it shall include the front or immediate area of any store, shop, restaurant, tavern or other place of business, and any street, ground, park or other area where persons may congregate.

<http://www.conwaygreene.com/Municipal-Codes.htm>

## **Toledo**

### **Toledo Ohio Municipal Code**

#### **549.23 Possession of certain semi-automatic firearms prohibited, large capacity magazines prohibited, Acknowledgement Form.**

(a) No person shall knowingly sell, deliver, rent, lease, display for sale, transfer ownership or possess certain semi-automatic firearms in the City of Toledo.

(b) No person shall knowingly possess a detachable ammunition magazine loaded with more than ten (10) rounds of ammunition.

(c) This section shall not apply to any assault weapons or any detachable ammunition magazines loaded with more than ten (10) rounds possessed or used by a law enforcement officer

or law enforcement agency as provided for in Section 549.21, or any detachable ammunition magazine loaded with more than ten (10) rounds which was purchased by a Toledo Police Patrol Officer pursuant to Section 2129.90 or a Toledo Police Command Officer pursuant to Section 2109.88.

(d) It shall be an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that either:

(1) At the time of violation the offender possessed a Toledo Certain Semi-Automatic Firearms Prohibited Acknowledgement Form describing by make, model and serial number the firearm(s) which would otherwise be unlawful to possess under this section and which form was signed by the person charged with the violation and acknowledgement before a Notary Public on or before the effective date of this section;

(2) That the offender provides a copy of the federal form 4473 showing proof of purchase date prior to the enactment of this ordinance and signed by the current possessor.

(3) That the proof of date of ownership or purchase provisions of (d)(1) or (d)(2) apply and the offender is an immediate family member of the person indicated as the owner of the firearm and is not otherwise prohibited from possessing firearms.

(e) Any person who acquires ownership of a prohibited semi-automatic firearm by inheritance or otherwise by operation of law shall not be in violation of this ordinance if the person takes possession of such prohibited semi-automatic firearm solely for the purpose of disposing of it, rendering it permanently inoperable, or permanently making it a device no longer classified as a prohibited semi-automatic firearm provided that within 60 days of acquiring ownership the person in fact disposes of it, renders it permanently inoperable, or permanently makes it a device no longer classified as a prohibited semi-automatic firearm.

(f) Any person who otherwise is not prohibited from firearms ownership and who acquires ownership of a certain semi automatic firearm that is "grandfathered" by the provisions of section 549.23(d)(1) or (d)(2) by inheritance from an immediate family member (grandparent, parent, spouse, son, daughter, brother or sister) shall not be in violation of this ordinance so long as they complete a Toledo Certain Semi-Automatic Firearms Prohibited Acknowledgement Form within 60 days of acquiring ownership.

(g) Whoever violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-23-01; Ord. 277-04. Passed 5-18-04.)

(Note: Effective date 5-26-01.)

### **549.25. Certain handguns prohibited.**

(A) The possession or sale of handguns with the following characteristics is prohibited:

(1) A revolver or single shot handguns which:

(a) Has an overall frame length with conventional grips, not measured diagonally of less than 4½”; or

(b) Has a barrel length of less than 3”: or

(c) Fails to pass a safety test as follows:

A Double Action Revolver must have a safety mechanism which automatically (or in a Single Action Revolver by manual operation) causes the hammer to retract to a point where the firing pin does not rest upon the primer of the cartridge or when not in lawful use an external locking or safety device which prevents the firearm from discharging; or

(d) Fails to achieve a score of forty-five (45) points as set forth in Appendix “A” of this chapter;

(2) A semiautomatic handgun which

(a) Does not have a positive manually operated safety device or a double action trigger pull; or when not in lawful use an external locking or safety device which prevents the firearm from discharging, or;

(b) Has a combined length and height of less than 10” with the height (right angle measurement to barrel without magazine or extension) being at least 4” and the length being at least 6”; or

(c) Fails to achieve a score of seventy-five (75) points as set forth in Appendix “A” of this chapter.

(B) No person shall sell, transfer, give, offer for sale or possess any handgun described in “A” above.

(1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(C) Exceptions.

(1) Whether or not they are prohibited by “A” above, the following handguns are exempted from this section:

(a) Any handgun which is an antique or relic firearm, acquired primarily for display or investment, and not for the purpose of firing.

(b) Any handgun which has been modified to either render it permanently inoperable or to make it a device no longer prohibited by “A” above.

(c) Any handgun possessed or used by a law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency or a handgun purchased by a retired Toledo Police patrol officer pursuant to Section 2129.90 or Toledo Police Command Officer pursuant to Section 2109.88.

(d) Any person who acquires ownership of a handgun described in “A” above, by inheritance or otherwise by operation of law shall not be in violation of this section if the person takes possession of such handgun solely for the purpose of disposing of it, rendering it permanently inoperable, or permanently making it a device no longer described in this section, provided that within 30 days of acquiring ownership the person in fact disposes of it, renders it permanently inoperable, or permanently converts it into a device no longer prohibited by this section.

[http://www.amlegal.com/toledo\\_oh/](http://www.amlegal.com/toledo_oh/)