

## Shooting Ranges

1. Add the following definitions:
  - a. Active range area (shooting range): The area bounded by and extending the full width of the firing line and target line. A Shooting Range use may be comprised of one or multiple active range areas.
  - b. Backstop (shooting range): A feature intended to stop and contain bullets fired on a range. A backstop can be an earthen berm, a steel bullet trap, or any other material intended to stop bullets.
  - c. Baffle (shooting range): A barrier designed to safely contain or redirect projectiles and/or a sound barrier designed to reduce, redirect or suppress sound waves. A baffle is placed either overhead, alongside, or at ground level of the active range area.
  - d. Berm (shooting range): An earthen embankment used to facilitate projectile containment on a shooting range and/or to separate a shooting range from surrounding areas.
  - e. Firing distance (shooting range): The distance between the firing line and the target line.
  - f. Firing line (shooting range): A line parallel to the targets from where firearms are discharged.
  - g. Shooting Range: A facility designed for providing a place on which to discharge firearms, or the use of land for discharging firearms. May also refer to a complex comprised of several active ranges.
  - h. Shooting Range, Indoor: The use of a completely enclosed structure for a shooting range.
  - i. Shooting Range, Outdoor: A shooting range that is not completely enclosed within a structure.
  - j. Target line (shooting range): A line parallel to the firing line along which targets are placed.
2. Add “Shooting Range, Indoor” as a
  - a. Permitted use in:
    - i. Parks and Recreation (PR)
    - ii. General Commercial (GC)
    - iii. Industrial Park/Manufacturing (IPM)
  - b. Special exception use:
    - i. Agricultural (AG)
    - ii. Village Commercial (VC)
3. Add “Shooting Range, Outdoor” as a
  - a. Permitted use in:
    - i. None
  - b. Special exception use in:
    - i. Agricultural (AG)
    - ii. Parks and Recreation (PR)
    - iii. Intensive Use (IN)
4. Add the following as a new Development Standards section
  - a. Incidental shooting. The following uses and activities are considered incidental uses and are not subject to these development standards: game/general hunting; unorganized shooting of firearms on private property for personal benefit only; and temporary shooting events at sites approved by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
  - b. Accessory Shooting Ranges. Shooting ranges that are part of and subordinate to a permitted government facility or gunsmithing business may be permitted as an accessory use despite the zoning district, but these development standards still apply.

c. Indoor Shooting Ranges

- i. General Design. Except where more restrictive standards are stated herein or as conditions of approval, range design is to be consistent with the recommendations of the National Rifle Association (NRA) Publication, *The Range Source Book/A Guide to Planning and Construction*, as amended.
- ii. Each shooting range shall have walls, ceilings, and floors that are impenetrable to the bullets of the firearms being used within it or have internal baffling so that bullets/projectiles cannot hit the walls or ceiling.
- iii. Shooting ranges shall be so constructed and insulated from noise that the discharge of firearms within the facility shall not disturb the peace of other persons.

d. Outdoor Shooting Ranges

- i. General design. Except where more restrictive standards are stated herein or as conditions of approval, range design is to be consistent with the recommendations of the National Rifle Association (NRA) Publication, *The Range Source Book/A Guide to Planning and Construction*, as amended.
  - 1. Ranges are to be designed to contain all fired bullets and ricochets within the active range area.
  - 2. The property owner shall maintain berms, backstops, and other required items in good condition.
- ii. Berms. Each shooting range shall have a berm located on at least the three (3) sides of the range area in the direction of fire.
  - 1. All required berms shall be no less than eight (8) feet in height.
  - 2. Berm heights are to be measured from the elevation of the firing line to the top of the berm.
  - 3. Side berms shall begin not less than five (5) feet behind the most distant firing line.
  - 4. Berms shall be maintained in good condition.
  - 5. The required berms may be provided for individual or multiple active range areas.
- iii. Backstop. Each active range shall have a backstop or berm into which projectiles shall be shot.

- 1. The minimum height of the backstop and/or the berm opposite the firing line shall be as follows:

Maximum distance from firing line to backstop/berm		Minimum backstop height
<i>Handgun range</i>	<i>Rifle range</i>	
50' or less	75' or less	10'
75'	150'	15'
150' or more	300' or more	20'

- 2. The backstop shall have an overhead cover/roof designed to prevent the escape of projectiles that ricochet from leaving the active range area.
- 3. Side berms shall be joined to the backstop or berm.
- 4. Existing topography may be considered as an alternative to a constructed berm or backstop.
- iv. Baffles. Baffles shall be required for noise mitigation, stray projectile interception, and ricochet capture. The minimum design of such baffles is described below. Baffles shall

meet the recommendations of the NRA *Range Source Book* and will be reviewed as part of the special exception.

1. A series of overhead baffles shall be required. Each baffle shall have a minimum vertical dimension of four (4) feet and a clearance of eight (8) feet between the bottom of the baffle and ground level or firing line elevation. The series of overhead baffles shall be designed to capture any ricochets or errant shots up to a 30° angle from the firing line throughout the length of the active range. The number, spacing, and position of baffles will vary, and the exact design is to be reviewed as part of the special exception.
  2. If the height of the side berm does not exceed the bottom of the overhead baffles by at least two (2) feet, vertical side baffles shall be required along the length of the active range. Side baffles shall be designed to overlap with overhead baffles to capture any ricochets or errant shots. Alternatively, side walls of equivalent height and comparable material may be used, or the height of the side berms may be increased to an equivalent height.
  3. Baffles shall be composed of appropriate material designed to capture projectiles and of sufficient thickness to prevent perforation by the maximum ammunition used on the range. Refer to the NRA *Range Source Book*.
  4. Baffles shall be kept in good repair to ensure they properly serve the design function.
- v. Setbacks. Minimum setbacks, as measured from the active range area perimeter:
1. 500' from the line of a property containing a dwelling
  2. 300' from any public road right-of-way
  3. 50' from any other property line
- vi. Performance standards.
1. No potentially dangerous projectile including, but not limited to, a bullet or shotgun slug, shall leave the property upon which the shooting range is located.
  2. Ammunition and targets. No incendiary ammunition or tracer rounds shall be used. Use of Tannerite or similar explosive targets on a regular or frequent basis may be considered a violation of Section 5.7(D).
- vii. The following additional details shall be considered as part of any special exception approval:
1. Specific hours of operation
  2. Means of securing the range from use by unauthorized persons
  3. Perimeter warning signage
  4. Noise mitigation measures
  5. Lighting, light spillage, and glare
  6. Type of firearms and ammunition being used
  7. Evidence of compliance with NRA *Range Source Book* guidelines