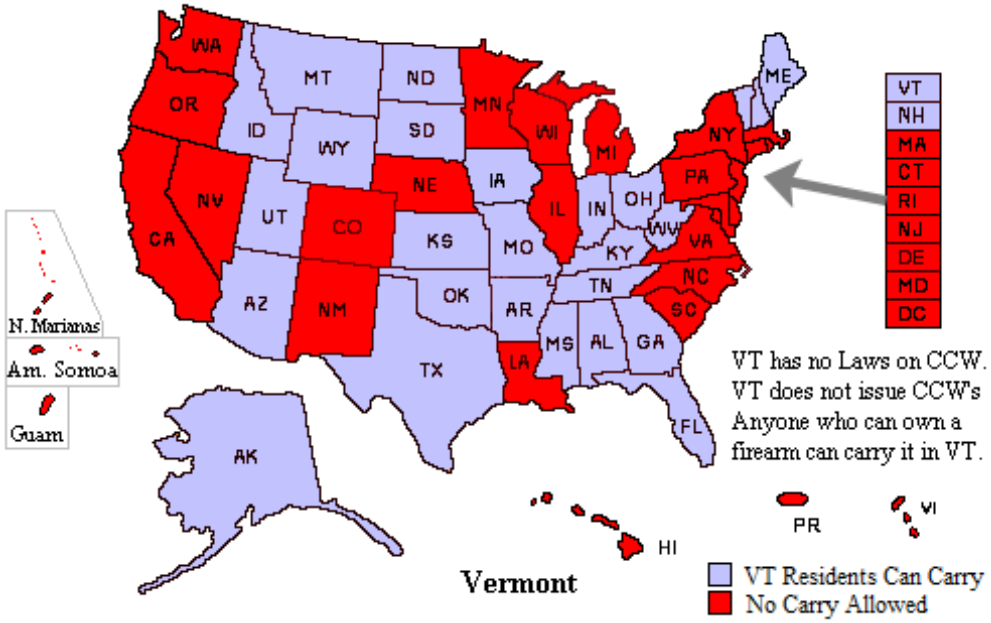
Vermont

Permitless Carry State

Does Not Issue

Must Inform Officer Immediately: NO

(See Must Inform Section)



Note: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and Wyoming have "Permitless Carry" Anyone who can legally possess a firearm under state and federal law may carry in these states without a Permit. Check each states page for age or other restrictions that may apply.

Vermont CCW Links√

State Firearm Site

Fireaarms Storage Program

DPS FAQs on Hi Cap Mag Ban

State FAQ Site

State Statutes

State Admin Rules

State Reciprocity Info

State Attorney General

Secretary of State

Age to Carry a Firearm In Other States

Last Updated: 9/5/2026

Permits/Licenses This State Honors Listed Below

Vermont does not issue Permit/Licenses to Carry a Concealed firearm. Vermont does allow anyone who can legally possess a firearm to carry it concealed without a permit of any kind.

Notice: Vermont Residents can carry in the states of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida. Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana. Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Ohio, South Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming with just their state Issued Drivers License or State issued ID. Check the States Page for any restrictions that may apply.

How to Apply for a Permit

Vermont does not issue permits. See Section above titled "Permits/Licenses This State Honors."

Title 13: Chpt. 85: § 4003. Carrying Dangerous Weapons

A person who carries a dangerous or deadly weapon **with the intent to injure another** shall be imprisoned for not more than two years or fined not more than $2,000.00, or both. It shall be a felony punishable by not

more than 10 years of imprisonment or a fine of $25,000.00, or both, if the person intends to injure multiple persons. (Amended 2017, No. 135 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. May 21, 2018.)

Note: Vermont Residents do not need a permit to carry as it is only illegal to carry with intent to harm.

Non-Resident Permits

Vermont does not issue permits. See Section above titled "Permits/Licenses This State Honors."

Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License

Title 13: Chpt. 85: § 4004. Possession of dangerous or deadly weapon in a school bus or school building or on school property

(a) No person shall knowingly possess a firearm or a dangerous or deadly weapon while within a school building or on a school bus. A person who violates this section shall, for the first offense, be imprisoned for not more than one year or fined not more than $1,000.00, or both, and for a second or subsequent offense shall be imprisoned for not more than three years or fined not more than $5,000.00, or both.

(b) No person shall knowingly possess a firearm or a dangerous or deadly weapon on any school property with the intent to injure another person. A person who violates this section shall, for the first offense, be imprisoned for not more than three years or fined not more than $1,000.00, or both, and for a second or subsequent offense shall be imprisoned for not more than five years or fined not more than $5,000.00, or both.

(c) This section shall not apply to:

(1) A law enforcement officer while engaged in law enforcement duties.
(2) Possession and use of firearms or dangerous or deadly weapons if the board of school directors, or the superintendent or principal if delegated authority to do so by the board, authorizes possession or use for specific occasions or for instructional or other specific purposes.

(d) As used in this section:

(1) "School property" means any property owned by a school, including motor vehicles.
(2) "Owned by the school" means owned, leased, controlled or subcontracted by the school.
(3) "Dangerous or deadly weapon" shall have the same meaning as in section 4016 of this title.
(4) "Firearm" shall have the same meaning as in section 4016 of this title.
(5) "Law enforcement officer" shall have the same meaning as in section 4016 of this title.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not limit or restrict any prosecution for any other offense, including simple assault or aggravated assault. 2017, No. 135 (Adj. Sess.), § 3, eff

Note: Section (a) states in a "School Building or School Bus." (b) states "On Any School Property With the Intent to Injure Another." So Buildings and all Vehicles owned by the School are off limits. The Property is not unless you are there to harm someone.

Note: **Armed Campus Organization** Has information on all the States Campus Carry Statutes, Regulations and Policies with some covering firearms Policies on each school's campus.

Title 13: Chpt. 85: § 4016. Weapons in Court

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Courthouse" means a building or any portion of a building designated by the supreme court of Vermont as a courthouse.

(2) "Dangerous or deadly weapon" means any firearm, or other weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, whether animate or inanimate, which in the manner it is used or is intended to be used is known to be capable of producing death or serious bodily injury.

(3) "Firearm" means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, which will expel a projectile by the action of an explosive and includes any weapon commonly referred to as a pistol, revolver, rifle, gun, machine gun or shotgun.

(4) "Law enforcement officer" means a person certified by the Vermont criminal justice training council as having satisfactorily completed the approved training programs required to meet the minimum training standards applicable to that person pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 2358.

(5) "Secured building" means a building with controlled points of public access, metal screening devices at each point of public access, and locked compartments, accessible only to security personnel, for storage of checked firearms.

(b) A person who, while within a courthouse and without authorization from the court,

(1) carries or has in his or her possession a firearm; or
(2) knowingly carries or has in his or her possession a dangerous or deadly weapon, other than a firearm, shall be imprisoned not more than one year or fined not more than $500.00, or both.

(c) Notice of the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall be posted conspicuously at each public entrance to each courthouse.

(d) No dangerous or deadly weapon shall be allowed in a courthouse that has been certified by the court administrator to be a secured building. (Added 1993, No. 45, § 1, eff. June 2, 1993.)

Title 13 – Chpt. 85 § 4023 Possession of Firearms in Hospital Buildings Prohibited

(a) A person shall not knowingly possess a firearm while within a hospital building.

(b) A person who violates this section shall be fined not more than $250.00.

(c) This section shall not apply to a firearm possessed by a federal law enforcement officer or a law enforcement officer certified as a law enforcement officer by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council Pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 2358, for legitimate law enforcement purposes.

(d) Notice of the provisions of this section shall be posted conspicuously at each public entrance to each hospital.)

(e) As used in this section:

(1) "Firearm" has the same meaning as in subsection 4017(d) of this title.

(2) "Hospital" has the same meaning as in 18 V.S.A. § 1902 2021, No. 87 (Adj. Sess.

Title 13 – Chpt. 85 § 4027. Polling Places; Firearms Prohibited

(a)(1) A person shall not knowingly possess a firearm at a polling place or on the walks leading to a building in which a polling place is located on an election day.

(2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to the town clerk's office during any period when a board of civil authority has voted to permit early voting pursuant to 17V.S.A. § 2546b(a)(1).

(c) This section shall not apply to:

(3) a firearm stored in a motor vehicle.

(d) Notice of the provisions of this section shall be posted conspicuously at each public entrance to each polling place. No. 120 (Adj. Sess.), § 4, eff. May 28, 2024

Admin Rule 10 050 003. Rules Governing State Facilities Under the Jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services

5.0 Firearms, Explosives and Other Dangerous Weapons

Firearms, explosives, dangerous weapons or the components to fabricate such devices whether in open or concealed possession are prohibited in State Buildings. Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council (VCJTC) certified law enforcement officers, as defined in 20 V.S.A. § 2358 and Capitol Police Officers who have successfully completed the firearms safety program provided by VCJTC are exempt from this provision, unless otherwise provided by law. Instructors and participants in educational or training classes conducted by the Agency of Natural Resources or the Department of Fish and Wildlife may be exempt from this provision upon the Commissioner's receipt and acknowledgment of written notification of such classes from the Agency of Natural Resources or the Department of Fish and Wildlife. AMENDED: February 3, 2000

Admin Rule 12 010 019. Regulation #944 - a Regulation Controlling Hunting and Trespassing on the Mud Creek Controlled Hunting Area in Alburg

1. Public use of the Mud Creek Controlled Hunting Area (CHA) shall be permitted or restricted as follows:

(a) No person shall posses a firearm, muzzleloader, trap, bow and arrow, crossbow or spear while within the boundaries of the Mud Creek CHA except under authority of a permit issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. Permits issued for hunting or trapping shall be carried by those persons at all times while on the CHA and shall be exhibited to any Fish and Wildlife Department employee upon request. AMENDED: September 9, 1995

Admin Rule 13 172 001. Licensing Regulations for Residential Treatment Programs

701 A Residential Treatment Program, including all structures and property shall be constructed, furnished, equipped, used and maintained so that the privacy, safety, health and physical comfort of all children/youth are ensured and in compliance with federal, state, local and municipal regulations.

708 A Residential Treatment Program shall not permit any **firearm** or chemical weapon on the property, including program and employee vehicles. January 1, 2011 Secretary of State Rule Log #10-039

State Park Rules and Regulations Fires and Firearms

I.b 2. No firecrackers or other explosive devices, firearms, air rifles or pistols, gas weapons, slingshots, crossbows, bow and arrows except by special permit **shall be discharged** in any developed recreation area during the park operating season. No firearm shall be discharged within 500 feet of any occupied building or structure in any park or recreation area. Effective: 08/24/2022

Note: Rule only covers the discharge and not carrying of a firearm.

Title 10 Chpt. 119 § 5204. Poaching; Private Preserves

(a) A person who, without the written consent of the owner or person having the exclusive right to take fish or wild animals, takes fish, game, or other animals or carries or possesses a firearm, bow and arrow, or wild animal trap in private preserve as posted under section 5201 of this title or mutilates or defaces the notice called for in subsection 5201(b) of this title shall be fined not less than $25.00 nor more than $100.00. 1969, No. 16, § 3, eff. March 11, 1969.

Title 10 Chpt. 119 § 5226. Bomoseen State Game Refuge

(a) A person shall not hunt, trap, take or kill wild animals on the Bomoseen state game refuge.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 5215 of this title, the boundaries of the refuge shall be conspicuously marked by paint and/or notices so as to give reasonable notice. The notices shall read "State Game Refuge: Hunting, Trapping or Shooting Prohibited."

(c) A person who enters this refuge to hunt, trap, take or kill wild animals **or carries or possesses a firearm,** bow and arrow or animal trap or who mutilates or defaces the notices marking the boundaries of the refuge shall be fined not less than $25.00 nor more than $100.00.

(d) This section shall not restrict the possession or use of firearms by a game warden or other law enforcement officer in the performance of his or her duties. 1985, No. 209 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. June 2, 1986.

11 050 002. Facility Use Policy, State-Owned Historic Sites

II. General Visitation

2.7 Firearms, firecrackers, explosive devices, air rifles or pistols, gas weapons, slingshots, crossbows, and bows and arrows **shall not be displayed or discharged** on any historic site while the site is open for public visitation except by special permit from the site administrator. During approved events weapons may be used as part of the program as specified in the Site Use Permit. Effective Date: January 7, 1991

Note: Looks like No Open Carry Allowed.

14 053 004. Regulations Governing the Use of State Highways with Limited Access Facilities

Section II Article 2.

6. Use of Firearms Prohibited
The use, **display or discharge** of any firearms or other weapons or fireworks on limited access highways, except by persons authorized by the Traffic Committee or by law, is prohibited.

Note: Looks like No Open Carry Allowed. September 13, 1983

Title 29 Chpt. 5 § 152. Duties of Commissioner

(a) The commissioner of buildings and general services, in addition to the duties expressly set forth elsewhere by law, shall have the authority to:

(14) Adopt rules to govern access to and conduct upon the grounds of and within the structures and buildings that fall within his or her jurisdiction. Specifically, and without limitation of the foregoing, the Commissioner is empowered to adopt rules governing access to property; littering; alcoholic beverages and narcotics; soliciting, debt collection, and campaigning; photographs for advertising or commercial purposes; pets and animals; and firearms and explosives while in State buildings under his or her jurisdiction or upon the grounds of these buildings, and in or upon property leased to the State and under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner. 2023, No. 162 (Adj. Sess.), § 19, eff. June 6, 2024.)

For Federal Restrictions on Firearms see the **USA Page**.

Do "No Gun Signs" Have the Force of Law?

"YES"

Title 13 Chapter 81 § 3705. Unlawful Trespass

(a) (1) A person shall be imprisoned for not more than three months or fined not more than $500.00, or both, if, without legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession, he or she enters or remains on any land or in any place as to which notice against trespass is given by:

(A) actual communication by the person in lawful possession or his or her agent or by a law enforcement officer acting on behalf of such person or his or her agent;

(B) signs or placards so designed and situated as to give reasonable notice; or

(C) in the case of abandoned property:

(i) signs or placards, posted by the owner, the owner's agent, or a law enforcement officer, and so designed and situated as to give reasonable notice; or

(ii) actual communication by a law enforcement officer.

(2) As used in this subsection, "abandoned property" means:

(A) real property on which there is a vacant structure that for the previous 60 days has been continuously unoccupied by a person with the legal right to occupy it and with respect to which the municipality has by first class mail to the owner's last known address provided the owner with notice and an opportunity to be heard; and

(i) property taxes have been delinquent for six months or more; or

(ii) one or more utility services have been disconnected;

(B) a railroad car that for the previous 60 days has been unmoved and unoccupied by a person with the legal right to occupy it.

(b) Prosecutions for offenses under subsection (a) of this section shall be commenced within 60 days following the commission of the offense and not thereafter.

(c) A person who enters the motor vehicle of another and knows that the person does not have legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession of the motor vehicle to do so shall be imprisoned not more than three months or fined not more than $500.00, or both. For a second or subsequent offense, a person who violates this subsection shall be imprisoned not more than one year or fined not more than $500.00, or both. Notice against trespass shall not be required under this subsection.

(e) A person who enters a dwelling house, whether or not a person is actually present, knowing that he or she is not licensed or privileged to do so shall be imprisoned for not more than three years or fined not more than $2,000.00, or both. 2023, No. 129 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. July 1, 2024.

Note: Handgunlaw.us believes when you come across a business that is posted that you not just walk away. That business needs to know that they lost your business because of their "No Gun" sign. Giving them a "No Firearms = No Money" card would do just that. You can print free "No Firearms = No Money" cards by going **Here**.

Must Inform Officer Immediately on Contact By Law?

"NO" VT doesn't have Carry Permits so there is nothing in their law concerning this.

Carry In State Parks//WMA/Road Side Rest Areas & St. /Nat. Forests

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: YES Parks Reg 1.b.2.

State/National Forests: **YES** **Parks** **Reg 1.b.2.**

State WMA: **YES** **10 App. V.S.A. § 15**

Road Side Rest Areas: **YES**

***Notice:** If State Park Carry is Legal in this state and if that state park is located on a lake created by the US Army Corp of Engineers (COE) who owns the land and leases it to the state for that park the park is Off Limits to the legal carrying of firearms per federal law. **36 CFR 327.13** District Commanders received this Memorandum detailing how they could authorize someone to carry on (COE) property. The (COE) has also put out a Pamphlet on carrying firearms on (COE) Property. They do not post their property you must know the boundaries. Hunting **is usually** allowed during hunting season.

RV/Car Carry Without a Permit/License

Anyone who can legally own a firearm can carry it concealed in Vermont with no permit/license of any kind.

Open Carry (Without a Valid Permit/License)

Open Carry is legal. Places as listed in the "Places Off Limits" above apply to those who open carry. See the "RV/Car Carry Without a Permit" section for carrying in a vehicle.

The state preempts all firearm laws in the state and local authorities can't have Laws/Ordinances against open carry. Remember that if you enter any property and the owner/responsible person ask you to leave you must leave. Failure to leave can result in Trespass Charges. The Minimum age for Open Carry is lower but federal law states you must be 18 to possess a handgun.

In some states Open Carry is forbidden in places where those with a valid permit/license can carry. This is not the last word on Open Carry in this state. Go to Google and type in State Name Open Carry or Open Carry State Name for a search for open carry info in this state. Check with the **State's RKBA** Organization/s. Also see "Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases" Section for any written opinions/Cases on Open Carry.

State Preemption

Title 24 Chpt. 061 § 2295. Authority of Municipal and County Governments to Regulate Firearms, Ammunition, Hunting, Fishing and Trapping

Except as otherwise provided by law, no town, city or incorporated village, by ordinance, resolution or other enactment, shall directly regulate hunting, fishing and trapping or the possession, ownership, transportation, transfer, sale, purchase, carrying, licensing or registration of traps, firearms, ammunition or components of firearms or ammunition. This section shall not limit the powers conferred upon a town, city or incorporated village under section 2291(8) of this title. The provisions of this section shall supersede any inconsistent provisions of a municipal charter. (Added 1987, No. 178 (Adj. Sess.), eff. May 9, 1988.)

24 V.S.A. § 2291. Enumeration of powers

For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, welfare, and convenience, a town, city, or incorporated village shall have the following powers:

(8) To regulate or prohibit the use or discharge, but not possession, of firearms within the municipality or

specified portions thereof, provided that an ordinance adopted under this subdivision shall be consistent with section 2295 of this title and shall not prohibit, reduce, or limit discharge at any existing sport shooting range, as that term is defined in 10 V.S.A. § 5227. 2024, No. 171, § 21

Deadly Force Laws

Title 13 Part 1 Chapter 53 § 2305. Justifiable homicide.

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click "Here"

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

YES

Note: A "YES" above means you can carry into places like described below. "NO" means you can't. Handgunlaw.us definition of "Restaurant Carry" is carry in a restaurant that serves alcohol. Places like Friday's or Red Lobster unless posted with "No Gun Signs." This may or may not mean the bar or the bar area of a restaurant. But you can carry your firearm into a restaurant that serves alcohol and sit and eat without consuming. Handgunlaw.us recommends you not sit at the Bar or in the Bar area of such restaurants. In some states it is illegal to be in the Bar area of such restaurants. Handgunlaw.us believes you should never consume alcohol when carrying your firearm. In some states it is illegal to take even one drink while carrying a firearm. If you want further info on carrying in places that serve alcohol check your state laws.

Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws

13 V.S.A. § 4021 Large Capacity Ammunition Feeding Devices

(a) A person shall not manufacture, possess, transfer, offer for sale, purchase, or receive or import into this State a large capacity ammunition feeding device. As used in this subsection, "import" does not include the transportation back into this State of a large capacity ammunition feeding device by the same person who transported the device out of State if the person possessed the device on or before the effective date of this section.

(b) A person who violates this section shall be imprisoned for not more than one year or fined not more than $500.00, or both.

(c)(1) The prohibition on possession of large capacity ammunition feeding devices established by subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to a large capacity ammunition feeding device lawfully possessed on or before the effective date of this section..

(d)(1) This section shall not apply to any large capacity ammunition feeding device:

(D) possessed by an individual who is retired from service with a law enforcement agency after having been transferred to the individual by the agency upon his or her retirement, provided that the individual is not otherwise prohibited from receiving ammunition;

(F) transported by a resident of another state into this State for the exclusive purpose of use in an organized shooting competition sponsored by an entity registered with the Secretary of State if the device is lawfully possessed under the laws of another state.

(e)(1) As used in this section, "large capacity ammunition feeding device" means a magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device that has a capacity of, or that can be readily restored or converted to accept:

(A) more than 10 rounds of ammunition for a long gun; or

(B) more than 15 rounds of ammunition for a hand gun.

(2) the term "large capacity ammunition feeding device" shall not include:

(A) an attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of operating only with .22 caliber rimfire ammunition.

(B) a large capacity ammunition feeding device that is manufactured or sold solely for use by a lever action or bolt action long gun or by an antique firearm as defined in subdivision 4017(d)(2)(A) and (B) of this title; or

(C) a large capacity ammunition feeding device that is manufactured or sold solely for use with a firearm that is determined to be a curio or relic by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. As used in this subdivision, "curio or relic" means a firearm that is of special interest to collectors by reason of some quality other than its association with firearms intended for sporting use or as offensive or defensive weapons.. 2021, No. 87 (Adj. Sess.), § 5

Vermont DPS has a **FAQ** page for their Hi Cap Mag Ban.

LEOSA State Information

VT Criminal Justice Training Council Recommended Training Handout for Firearms Instructors

Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council certified firearms instructor can conduct qualifications shoots for retired LEOs.

See LEOSA Section on **USA Page** at Handgunlaw.us for more LEOSA Information.

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

- **Vermont Supreme Ct – City Ordinances and Carrying Firearms**
- **Vermont Ct Ruling – Repelling Trespassers**
- **Vermont Superior Ct - Mag Ban Constitutional** (7/1/19)
- **Vermont Supreme Ct – Mag Ban Ruled Constitutional** (2/20/2021)

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Link to State Statutes

Airport Carry: **No law found**

Training Valid for: **No training requirements in law.**

Time Period to Establish Residency: **N/A**

Minimum Age for Permit/License: **If 18 can possess and carry firearm**

Permit/License Info Public Information: **N/A**

State Firearm Laws: **13-85-4001 thru 4017 & 10-113-4705**

State Deadly Force Laws: **13-53- § 2305**

State Knife Laws: **13-85-4003 & 13-85-4013**

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: **No law found**

Body Armor Laws: **No law found**

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? **VT does not issue permit/licenses so this Section does not apply. Check their statutes for laws covering other weapons besides firearms.**

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: **Title 13 – Chpt. 85 § 4024**

Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal? **YES** Except When Turkey and Muzzle Loading Hunting. Admin Rule 12 010 060.6.3
VT Fish & Wildlife Guide

Red Flag Statute: **13 V.S.A. § 4051 through § 4062**

Notes

What Does VT Consider A Loaded Firearm?

Title 10 Chapter 113 § 4705. Shooting from Motor Vehicles or Aircraft; Permit

(b)(1) A person shall not carry or possess while in or on a vehicle propelled by mechanical power or drawn by a vehicle propelled by mechanical power within the right-of-way of a public highway any of the following:

(A) a rifle, air rifle, arrow rifle, pre-charged pneumatic rifle or shotgun containing a loaded cartridge, shell, or other projectile in the chamber, mechanism, or in a magazine, or clip within a rifle shotgun.

(B) amussle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading shotgun that has been charged with powder and projectile and the ingnition system of which has been enabled by an affixed or attached percussion cap, primer, battery, or a priming powder, except as permitted under subsection (d) and (e) of this section; and No. 47, 4, eff. July 1, 2025

From VT Fish and Wildlife Rules & Regulations General Hunting Information.

Transporting Firearms & Crossbow s in Motor Vehicles: A person shall not carry or possess while in or on a vehicle propelled by mechanical power or drawn by a vehicle propelled by mechanical power within the right of way of a public highway a rifle or shotgun containing a loaded cartridge or shell in the chamber, mechanism, or in a magazine or clip within a rifle or shotgun, or a muzzleloading rifle or muzzleloading shotgun that has been charged with powder and projectile and the ignition system of which has been enabled by having an affixed or attached percussion cap, primer, battery, or priming powder. Unless it is uncocked, a person shall not possess or transport a crossbow in or on a motor vehicle, motorboat, airplane, snowmobile, ATV, or other motor-propelled craft or any vehicle drawn by a motor-propelled vehicle.

State Emergency Powers

Chapter 1: Emergency Management

Title 20 Chapter 1 § 9. Emergency Powers of Governor

(a) Subject to the provisions of this chapter, in the event of an all-hazards event in or directed upon the United States or Canada that causes or may cause substantial damage or injury to persons or property within the State in any manner, the Governor may declare a state of emergency within the entire State or any

portion or portions of the State. Thereafter, the Governor shall have and may exercise for as long as the Governor determines the emergency to exist the following additional powers within the area or areas:

(1) To enforce all laws and rules relating to emergency management and to assume direct operational control of all first responders, other emergency management personnel, and volunteers in the affected area or areas.

(2) To formulate and execute plans and rules for the control of traffic and to coordinate the activities of the departments or agencies of the State and of the political subdivisions of the State concerned directly or indirectly with public highways and streets, in a manner that will best effectuate the plans.

(3) To prescribe the maximum rates of speed at which motor vehicles may be operated on any road, highway, or street in the State; prescribe the sizes and weights of such motor vehicles; suspend the application of any statute or rule levying or assessing any license, insofar as the statute or rule relates to the entry into or the privilege of operation in this State of any motor vehicle, including busses or house trailers, registered in any other state and with respect to which a valid and unexpired license has been issued by the other state.

(4) To employ such measures and give such directions to the State or local boards of health as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose of securing compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

(5) To utilize the services and facilities of existing officers and agencies of the State and of the cities and towns of the State; and all such officers and agencies shall cooperate with and extend their services and facilities to the Governor as he or she may request.

(6) To use and employ within the State, from time to time, and as he or she may deem expedient, any of the property, services, and resources of the State, for the purposes set forth in this chapter.

(7) To establish agencies and offices and to appoint executive, technical, clerical, and other personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(8) Upon the declaration of an emergency as authorized in federal legislation that includes the State of Vermont, to cooperate with the President of the United States, the U.S. Armed Forces, with other federal departments, agencies, and independent establishments, and other states in matters pertaining to emergency management; and in connection therewith to take such action, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the State, that he or she may deem proper to carry into effect any request of the President, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(9) To order the evacuation of persons living or working within all or a portion of an area for which a state of emergency has been proclaimed.

(10) As provided in 30 V.S.A. § 248(l), in consultation with the Chair of the Public Utility Commission and the Commissioner of Public Service or their designees, to waive the prohibitions contained in 30 V.S.A. § 248 upon site preparation for or construction of an electric transmission facility or a generating facility necessary to ensure the stability or reliability of the electric system or a natural gas facility. Waivers issued under this subdivision shall be subject to conditions required by the Governor and shall be valid for the duration of the declared emergency plus 180 days, or such lesser overall term as determined by the Governor. Upon the expiration of a waiver under this subdivision, if a certificate of public good has not been issued by the Public Utility Commission under 30 V.S.A. § 248, the Commission shall require the removal, relocation, or alteration of the facilities, subject to the waiver, as the Commission finds will best promote the general good of the State.

(11) In consultation with the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee, to authorize the Agency to issue temporary emergency permits, with appropriate conditions to minimize significant adverse environmental impacts, after limited or no opportunity for public comment, allowing site preparation for, construction of, or operation of an electric transmission facility or a generating facility necessary to ensure the stability or reliability of the electric system or a natural gas facility. A permit issued under this subdivision shall be

subject to conditions required by the Governor and shall be valid for the duration of the declared emergency plus 180 days, or such lesser overall term as determined by the Governor. Upon the expiration of a temporary emergency permit under this subdivision, if any applicable permits have not been issued by the Secretary or the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation, the Secretary may seek enforcement under applicable law. No. 57. 9 eff. July 1, 2025

Title 20 Chapter 1 § 11. Additional Emergency Powers

In the event of an all-hazards event, the Governor may exercise any or all of the following additional powers:

(1) To authorize any department or agency of the State to lease or lend, on such terms and conditions and for a period related to the declaration of emergency to promote the public welfare and protect the interests of the State, any real or personal property of the State government.

(2) To enter into a contract on behalf of the State for the lease or loan, on such terms and conditions and for such period as the Governor deems necessary to promote the public welfare and protect the interests of the State, of any real or personal property of the State government, or the temporary transfer or employment of personnel thereof to any town or city of the State. The chief executive, the chair or president of the legislative branch, or the emergency management director of the town or city is authorized for and in the name of the town or city to enter into the contract with the Governor for the leasing or lending of the property and personnel, and the chief executive, the chair or president of the legislative branch, or the emergency management director of the town or city may equip, maintain, utilize, and operate such property except news outlets, radio stations, places of worship and assembly, and other facilities for the exercise of constitutional freedom, and employ necessary personnel in accordance with the purposes for which such contract is executed.

(3) To seize, take, or condemn property for the protection of the public or at the request of the President, or his or her authorized representatives including:

- **(A)** All means of transportation;
- **(B)** All stocks of fuel of whatever nature;
- **(C)** Food, clothing, equipment, materials, medicines, and all supplies;
- **(D)** Facilities, including buildings and plants; provided that neither this nor any other authority in this chapter shall be deemed to authorize the eviction of a householder and his or her family from their own home.

(4) To sell, lend, give, or distribute all or any such property among the inhabitants of the State and to account to the State Treasurer for any funds received for such property.

(5) To make compensation for the property seized, taken, or condemned on the following basis:

- **(A)** Whenever the Governor deems it advisable for the State to take property for temporary use or to take property permanently, the Governor, at the time of the taking, shall fix the amount of compensation to be paid for the property. In case the property is taken for temporary use and returned to the owner in a damaged condition the Governor shall fix the amount of compensation to be paid for the damage.
- **(B)** Whenever the Governor deems it advisable for the State to temporarily or permanently take title to property taken under this section, the Governor shall notify the owner of the property of the taking in writing by registered mail or in person, and shall file a copy of the notice with the Secretary of State.
- **(C)** Any owner of property of which possession has been either temporarily or permanently taken under the provisions of this chapter to whom no award has been made or who is dissatisfied with the amount awarded by the Governor may file a petition in the Superior Court within the county wherein the property was situated at the time of taking to have the amount to which the owner is entitled by

way of damages or compensation determined, and either the petitioner or the State shall have the right to have the amount of such damages or compensation fixed after hearing by three disinterested appraisers appointed by the court, and who shall operate under substantive and administrative procedure to be established by the Superior judges. If the owner of the property is dissatisfied with the award of the appraisers, the owner may appeal the award to the Superior Court and thereafter have a trial by jury to determine the amount of the damages or compensation. The court costs of a proceeding brought under this section by the owner of the property shall be paid by the State, and the fees and expenses of any attorney for the owner shall also be paid by the State after allowances by the court in which the petition is brought in an amount determined by the court. The statute of limitations shall not apply to proceedings brought by owners of property under this section for and during the time that any court having jurisdiction over the proceedings is prevented from holding its usual and stated sessions due to conditions resulting from emergencies described in this chapter.

(6) To perform and exercise other functions, powers, and duties as necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population. 2023, No. 143 (Adj. Sess.), § 28, eff. July 1, 2024.)

Note: Federal Law can apply if the state is receiving monetary and/or other assistance from the Federal Government. See **US Code 42-5207** for Federal Law as it applies to States of Emergencies. The state quoted code may also not be all of the law on Emergency Powers held by the state. You should read the entire code on Emergency Powers etc for this state by following the link to the state code.

Minimum Age for Possessing and Transporting of Handguns.

Vermont 16 Y/O ? (See State and Federal Code) Title 13, Chapter 85, § 4007 and § 4008

This is the minimum age for possessing and transporting a handgun unloaded and secured in a vehicle without any type of permit/license to carry firearms.

§ 4007. Furnishing Firearms to Children

A person, firm or corporation, other than a parent or guardian, who sells or furnishes to a minor under the age of 16 years a firearm or other dangerous weapon or ammunition for firearms shall be fined not more than $50.00 nor less than $10.00. This section shall not apply to an instructor or teacher who furnishes firearms to pupils for instruction and drill.

4008. Possession of Firearms by Children

A child under the age of 16 years shall not, without the consent of his or her parents or guardian, have in his or her possession or control a pistol or revolver constructed or designed for the use of gunpowder or other explosive substance with leaden ball or shot. A child who violates a provision of this section shall be deemed a delinquent child under the provisions of 33 V.S.A. chapter 52.

Note: In some states Possession and Transportation CAN be very restrictive in that you can ONLY possess and transport a handgun to and from a Shooting Range, Gun Shop, property you own or other places you can legally possess a handgun. Some states do not have this restriction.

This is not the last word on possession and transporting of handguns in this, or any other state. Study your state law further for more information. See "RV/Car Carry" Section Above for more information.

18 USC § 922(x) Federal Law on selling, possession, delivery, or otherwise transferring a firearm to a juvenile.

Updates to this Page

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9/6/2024 – All External Links, Statutes and Admin Rules Quoted Have Been Checked and are up to Date and Point to the Most Up to Date Edition of that Statute/Admin Rule and/or Document.
10/1/2024 - State Red Flag Statute Added to Airport Carry/Misc. Information Section.
1/1/2025 - Note on Armed Campus Organization Link Which Has Information on Every States Campus Carry Statute/Regulation/Rules/Policies Added to Places Off Limits Section.
3/7/2025 – All Links Checked.
7/1/2025 – All Links Checked.
10/15/2025 – All External Links, Statutes and Admin Rules Quoted Have Been Checked and are up to Date and Point to the Most Up to Date Published Edition of that Statute/Admin Rule and/or Document.
1/20/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
3/20/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
6/7/2026 – All Links Checked.
9/5/2026 – All Links Checked.