



Winslow Police Department

114 Benton Avenue, Winslow, ME 04901-6850

Tel. (207) 872-5215 • Fax (207) 872-1984 • lmacdaid@winslow-me.gov



LEONARD MACDAID, CHIEF OF POLICE

Lieutenant Bradley Hubert
bhubert@winslow-me.gov

Sergeant Brandon Lund
blund@winslow-me.gov

Sergeant Alex Jones
ajones@winslow-me.gov

CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMITS

This agency strongly recommends that all persons carrying firearms be familiar with firearms safety and the circumstances under which deadly force may be used.

Notice to Applicants

Effective October 15, 2015, Public Law, Chapter 327 (LD 652), "An Act To Authorize the Carrying of Concealed Handguns without a Permit," allows a person who is not otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Maine without a permit. This law also authorizes a person to possess a loaded pistol or revolver while in a motor vehicle, trailer, or other vehicle being hauled by a motor vehicle.

Concealed carry without a permit is limited to people who are 21 or older with the following exception: If a person is 18 years of age or older, and is on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard, or has been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces or the National Guard, and is not otherwise prohibited from carrying a firearm, the person may carry a concealed handgun. A person who is 18-20 years old and without the referenced military qualifications must have a permit to carry concealed. The law applies to both residents of Maine and non-residents.

The law does not otherwise change where a person may carry or who may possess a firearm. It will still be illegal to possess a firearm in the following places with some very limited exceptions:

- Courthouses (17-A M.R.S. § 1058)
- State Parks (12 M.R.S. § 1803(6), (7) and Bureau of Parks and Lands Rules, Chapter 1)
- Acadia National Park (12 M.R.S. § 756)
- Schools (20-A M.R.S. § 6552)
- Federal buildings (18 U.S.C. § 930)
- State Capitol area (25 M.R.S. § 2904 & DPS Rules, Chapter 41)
- Private property when prohibited by the property owner
- Establishments licensed for on-premises consumption of liquor, if the premises are posted. Note that even if there is no posted prohibition, it is illegal to carry on these premises while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs (17-A M.R.S. §1057)
- Wildlife Sanctuaries (12 M.R.S. § 12707)
- Labor disputes and strikes (32 M.R.S. § 9412(5))
- Baxter State Park (as prohibited by Rules)
- Allagash Wilderness Waterway (as prohibited by Rules)

There will be some circumstances in which an optional handgun permit will authorize the permittee to carry in certain locations or during an activity when an unpermitted person could not:

- Acadia National Park (Maine Permit required; 12 M.R.S. §756) NOTE: Pursuant to 25 M.R.S. 2001-A (2)(F), Maine will recognize a concealed handgun permit issued by another state to its resident if that

state recognizes Maine's resident concealed handgun permits. A resident permit from that state is valid for concealed carry of a handgun within Acadia National Park

- State Parks (Permit required; open carry not permitted; 12 M.R.S. § 1803(7))
- Regular archery hunting-deer only (Permit required; 12 MRS § 11403)
- Employees' vehicles on work premises (Permit required; vehicle must be locked and firearm must not be visible; 26 M.R.S. §600)

If an individual is carrying a concealed handgun without a permit, he/she has a duty, when coming into contact with any law enforcement officer during a routine stop, detention or arrest, to immediately inform the law enforcement officer that the individual is carrying a concealed handgun.

The law pertains only to handguns, not all weapons. It is important to remember that this law does **NOT** authorize persons who are prohibited from possessing firearms to carry them. If a person is prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm, this law does nothing to change that prohibition. A person may be prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition under state law, federal law, or both. Prohibitions include convictions (felony and qualifying misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence); some juvenile adjudications; many protection from abuse orders, dishonorable discharge from the military; immigration status; deferred disposition status; certain mental health adjudications (civil involuntary commitment; finding of not guilty by reason of insanity; finding of not competent to stand trial) and certain probate adjudications. Prohibitions may also be imposed by conditions of bail, probation, and deferred disposition agreements.

Firearms laws are complex. The summary above is necessarily an overview. Persons may wish to contact qualified private counsel and or review the applicable law if they have questions regarding whether they can legally possess firearms or ammunition. This agency is not authorized to give legal advice. This summary cannot be used as a defense to illegal activity involving firearms or ammunition.

Laws regarding carrying a concealed handgun without a permit

Effective October 15, 2015

- Public Law, Chapter 327 (LD 652)
- 17-a M.R.S § 104. Use of force in defense of premises
- 17-a M.R.S § 105. Use of force in property offenses
- 17-a M.R.S § 106. Physical force by persons with special responsibilities
- 17-a M.R.S § 108. Physical force in defense of a person

Concealed Handgun Reciprocity

Firearm laws can be complex. It is the responsibility of each person holding a Maine concealed handgun permit to check with the state/jurisdiction they are traveling to determine whether that state honors Maine's permit and whether there are any restrictions or conditions imposed on out of state permits and the carrying of firearms.

Pursuant to 25 M.R.S. 2001-A (2)(F), Maine will recognize a concealed handgun permit issued by another state to its resident if that state recognizes Maine's resident concealed handgun permits. The site is providing a list of states that meet the requirements of the statute, based on research provided by the Maine Office of the Attorney General.

Reminder: **Firearms must be carried in accordance with the laws of the state you are visiting.** Be sure to check the laws of the other state before traveling there with your firearms. For more information or for specific questions you should contact the state to which you are traveling. This agency is not authorized to give legal advice. This summary cannot be used as a defense to illegal activity involving firearms or ammunition.

Resident permits issued by the following states will be recognized in Maine, and Maine permits held by Maine residents will be recognized in these states:

- Alabama
- Alaska (must be 21 or older)
- Arizona (must be 21 or older)
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Idaho
- Iowa (must be 21 or older)
- Kansas (must be 21 or older)
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Michigan
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Nebraska (must be 21 or older)
- New Hampshire
- North Carolina
- North Dakota (must be 21 or older)
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Utah
- Virginia (must be 21 or older and possess government issued identification)
- Wyoming

Safety Programs

Pursuant to LD 652/P.L. 2015 Chapter 327, the Department of Public Safety is required to post on their website a list of safety programs certified by a national nonprofit membership organization that provides a volunteer safety program, including the training of people in the safe handling and use of handguns.