

MERRILL SHOOTING RANGE

Rules and Operating Procedures

General

Live firing conducted at the Merrill Shooting Range is designed to provide authorized users access to a safe facility where they can become proficient with firearms

Facility Use

Range availability is at the discretion of the Merrill Police Dept. Merrill PD. will establish the operational days and times for the range and may close all or part of the range for other activities or safety concerns.

- **Hours are 10 A.M till 8 P.M or Dusk, whichever comes first. No shooting beyond these times.**
- Night shooting is not permitted.
- Range will be closed during farming activity or routine maintenance. Notice will be posted at the gate
- Always close and lock the gate after use.
- No vehicles including ATV/UTV or golf carts outside of designated parking area.
- At high usage times keep time **limits to one (1) hour** and report anyone abusing their time.
- Smart phones or tablets are required for access.
- Membership expires 12/31 each calendar year.
- Children under 8 are not permitted.

General Rules and Safety Requirements

The City of Merrill makes all decisions regarding safety.

- Treat all firearms as if they are always loaded.
- Keep finger off the trigger until aimed at target.
- Never let the muzzle cover anything you are not willing to destroy.
- Know the target and what is beyond.
- No intoxicating substances of any kind or intoxicated people are allowed on the range.
- Cooperate with others to cease fires for target placement.
- Shoot only in the appropriate direction from the designated firing lines.
- Fire at authorized targets only. Check with range safety or Merrill police for target info.(See #5 Authorized Targets)
- Fire only on designated lanes. No crossfire between lanes, and never over berms!
- Fire only authorized firearms and ammunition.
- Use of appropriate ear and eye protection is mandatory for all individuals.
- Ensure all projectiles impact within the established range safety limits.
- Call "Cease firing" and make safe all firearms when observing any unsafe condition or when a shooter moves forward of the firing line.
- Notify the Range Safety Officer (RSO) 712-938-2514 or Merrill PD of any safety infractions or concerns. 712-546-8191
- Do not climb on the berm or target backstops. Respect the facilities.
- Consumption of alcohol before or during shooting is not permitted under any circumstances.
- Use of illegal drugs before or during shooting is not permitted under any circumstances.
- People under 18 must be supervised and under the control of the adult member. The adult member assumes all liability for persons listed on his membership.

Prohibited Firearms and Ammunition

- No .50 caliber BGM rifles allowed on the range.
- No armor piercing jacketed or tracer ammunition.
- No fully automatic firearms
- No FRT Mods

Authorized Targets

- Paper and cardboard.
- Metallic targets
- No cylindrical or spherical objects that could shatter or cause ricochet
- No exploding targets
- **No trash! (Bottles/Glass/Jugs etc.)**
- Targets must be twenty-four inches from the ground and never higher than the target backstop.

Authorized Personnel

- Each member must complete required forms, and will receive an email from MasterLock with instructions for app-based access to the facility
- Family members include Spouse and any person under the age of 18 residing in the same household as the member; one access per household. *All people over the age of 18 must sign a waiver. All family members MUST be listed on the membership form.
- Guests are not permitted under any circumstances.

Range Area

General Rules

- Have your permit with you at the range if one is provided
- Always close and lock the entry gate upon entering or exiting to ensure member-only access.
- Check downrange for other shooters or range maintenance personnel; do not set up downrange or up range of other shooters.
- Be ready to share the facilities and follow the one-hour limit if required.
- Please clean up after yourselves. Brass may remain, but all shotgun shells and any targets you bring must be taken with you when you leave.

Rifle Range

- Always stay behind the safety lines/pillars
- Do not shoot across the range to other than your position target
- Do not shoot at the ground, at non-approved targets, or above the berm.

Shotguns/Clay Targets

- Use on close range targets only.
- For clay pigeons, hand throwers are permitted.
- Throw clay targets in the approved direction only.
- Shotgun shells must be picked up.

Pistol Range

- Always stay behind the safety lines/pillars
- Do not shoot across the range to other than your position target
- Do not shoot at the ground, at non-approved targets, or above the berm.
- Be cautious of hot brass for other shooters.

Emergency Procedures

- Render first aid if qualified.
- Call 911 for help if necessary.
- Direct help to location.

Steps for Using the RANGE

1. Review Range Safety Rules

- Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
- Always keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
- Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to shoot.
- Know your target and what is beyond.
- Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
- Know how to use the gun safely.
- Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
- Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate.
- Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting.
- Know and obey all range commands.
- Know where others are at all times.
- Shoot only at authorized targets.
- Do not handle a firearm or stand at the firing line where firearms are present while others are downrange.
- Stop shooting immediately upon the command of "Cease Firing."
- "CEASE FIRE" "SAFETIES ON" notifies shooters to stop firing immediately. All rifle chambers and magazines are unloaded, and shooters leave the firing line with the actions of their rifles open. .
- Misfires must be flagged and cleared in the firing position on the range.

2. Identify target lane for the distance wanted.

- Lanes 1 & 6 are 100 yards
- Lanes 2 & 5 are 75 yards
- Lanes 3 & 4 are 50 and or 25 yards
- Lanes 7 – 10 are 20 yards (pistol range)

3. Prepare target area (set targets). Make sure the targets are in front of the backstops.

4. Place firearms at shooting stations (*safe handling protocol*).

5. Make sure the range is CLEAR. No people or animals are down range.

6. Prepare firearms for shooting (*safe handling protocol*).

7. Fire. Continue to ensure the range is safe at all times.

8. After firing ensure Firearms are gathered and stored.

9. Police the area for plastic, water bottles, targets, and trash; Please pick up and take with you.

Range Personnel

Range Safety Officer (RSO) is responsible for the continued safety of the range. If an unsafe condition exists, he will shut down the range complex and inform the City of Merrill and Merrill Police Department of the condition that caused this shutdown.

- The RSO is appointed by the City of Merrill
- The RSO will check membership and ensure the rules of the range are followed.
- The RSO will report all serious problems to Merrill Police department and City of Merrill.
- The RSO will Call 911 if it is a serious safety problem and/or damage to property but will not confront any armed individuals.

Assistant Range Officers

- Assist the Range Safety Officer in daily
- Enforce Range Rules
- Periodically walk the ranges to ensure safety rules and Range Rules, in general, are observed.
- Perform minor range maintenance, cleaning, and general upkeep.
- Repair and re-face target frames.
- Perform other duties assigned by the Range Safety Officer

Hygiene Guidelines

- Refrain from eating, drinking, and smoking, applying makeup, or otherwise placing hands in proximity to the mouth or nose while on the range or cleaning a gun.
- Wash your hands and face with cold water after leaving the range.
- Change and wash clothing after a shooting or gun cleaning session to minimize exposure airborne particulate lead or solvent and cleaning product residues.

Merrill Shooting Range reserves the right to revoke access and discontinue membership for anyone who violates these rules. Individuals found in violation will be notified and placed on a NO ACCESS list, which prohibits future entry to the range.