



GRAND VALLEY

## STAFF REPORT

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Brad Haines – By-law & Property Standards Enforcement Officer  
**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2025  
**Report Number:** 2025-143  
**Subject:** Report – Ministry of Natural Resources – Sunday Gun Hunting

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### Recommendation

**THAT** Council receive Report – Ministry of Natural Resources – Sunday Gun Hunting – 2025-143;

**WHEREAS** hunting in Ontario is regulated by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR); and  
**WHEREAS** it is the prerogative of individual Municipalities whether to permit Sunday gun hunting;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council directs staff to notify the Ministry of Natural Resources (Wildlife Section, Fish and Wildlife Policy Branch) (MNR) that the Town of Grand Valley supports Sunday gun hunting within the Town of Grand Valley in accordance with provincial legislation;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council directs staff to request the MNR to process a regulatory amendment to Ontario Regulation 663/98 under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act to include the Town of Grand Valley in the list of Municipalities that allow Sunday gun hunting in Ontario;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council directs staff to advise the applicable agencies of this resolution and confirm with the various conservation authorities, the County and any other public landowners that proper signage is in place to advise of hunting prohibitions.

## Executive Summary

### Purpose

To provide members of Council with information and the process to permit Sunday Gun Hunting within The Town of Grand Valley.

### Key Findings

- Hunting in Ontario is regulated by the Ministry of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Policy Branch (MNR).
- Currently, Schedule A of the Town's Excessive Noise By-Law permits Sunday Gun hunting with restrictions.
- To permit Sunday Gun Hunting in Grand Valley, the municipality must request, by Council Resolution, to the MNR, to process a regulatory amendment to Ontario Regulation 663/98 under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act and to include Grand Valley in the list of Municipalities that permit Sunday gun hunting in Ontario.

### Financial Implications

There are no financial implications to this report.

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## Report

### Background

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 Council adopted Resolution # 2025-05-03 as follows:

**'BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the public question from Wafik Herte;  
**AND FURTHER THAT** staff be directed to bring back a report'.

Staff have consulted with the MNRF to obtain information and the process to list Grand Valley on the Municipal Sunday Gun Hunting permitted list for Council's consideration and approval of the staff's recommendation.

### Discussion

Currently, the Town of Grand Valley permits firearm discharges on Sundays in accordance with Schedule "A" of the Town's Excessive Noise By-law as follows:

*'The following are deemed to be noises that will disturb or are likely to disturb an inhabitant of Town of Grand Valley:*

*k) The discharge of firearms at any time in the urban noise zone.*

*l) The discharge of firearms between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday to Saturday in the rural noise zone and prior to 9:00 a.m. on Sunday in the rural noise zone. If legally hunting, firearms may be discharged half hour before sunrise to half hour after sunset as per the MNRF hunting regulations’.*

Although Grand Valley permits Sunday Gun Hunting, the municipality is not listed on the MNRF's Sunday permitted list. Several municipalities surrounding Grand Valley are listed on the MNR approved list and participate in Sunday gun hunting including Amaranth, Melancthon, Mapleton, Wellington North and Guelph-Emarosa. Through consultation with the MNRF regarding the process to have Grand Valley included on their list, they have requested the municipality submit a municipal resolution which includes a request to the MNRF to be added to the list of municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted.

Once the resolution is received, the MNRF will proceed with an MNRF's regulatory amendment which is typically done twice annually, with municipal resolutions received by February 1st included in an April 1st regulation update and those received by July 1st included in the September 1<sup>st</sup> update. Until the regulation is amended to include the Town of Grand Valley, hunting with a gun on Sundays will continue to be prohibited under Ontario hunting regulations. This amendment is important for aligning the Town of Grand Valley's by-laws with provincial regulations and ensuring that community members can legally hunt on Sundays.

### **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications to this report

### **Consultations**

Ministry of Natural Resources

### **Attachments**

Sunday Gun Hunting Map – Southern Ontario (GV)

### **This report was submitted by**

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### **This report was approved by**

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Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk  
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