

# Places Off-Limits

<p><b>Public Gatherings</b> Georgia Code <a href="#">16-11-127</a> includes, but is not limited to:  <a href="#">Caselaw</a> shows that courts believe the parking lot is a part of the whole gathering  Wynne Vs. The State 123 Ga. 566 (1905) says that a 4th of July BBQ, at which the public is assembled in considerable numbers (400-500), constitutes a public gathering</p>		
churches or church functions	political rallies or functions	
athletic or sporting events	publicly owned or operated buildings	
<p>establishments at which alcoholic beverages are sold for consumption on the premises which derive less than 50 percent of their total annual gross food and beverage sales from the sale of prepared meals or food and you cannot drink alcohol while there</p>		
<p><b>Publicly owned or operated buildings</b> in your town include:</p>		
Sheriff's Department	City/County Police Department	City/County Mental Health Facility
State Patrol Office/DMV	Fire Station	Court House
Library	City Auditorium	Highway Rest Stop Building
Tag Office	Department of Labor/Unemployment Office	County Extension Office
US Post Office	Voter Registration Office	City/County Water/Sewer Department
County Hospital	City/County Health Department	Tax office
Jail and prison (42-4-13 may include parking lot)	Polling location	Public and Private Elementary, Middle, and High Schools includes parking lot except when picking up/dropping off a student (16.11.127.1)
Public and Private College, University, or Institution of Postsecondary Education includes parking lot except when picking up/dropping off a student (16.11.127.1)		
<p>Places that are known to be <b>Publicly owned or operated buildings</b>:</p>		
Georgia Dome	World Congress Center	State Capitol
Coverdell Office Building	International Convention Center	

**School Safety Zone** Georgia Code [16-11-127.1](#)

"School safety zone" means in, on, or within 1,000 feet of any real property owned by or leased to any public or private elementary school, secondary school, or school board and used for elementary or secondary education and in, on, or within 1,000 feet of the campus of any public or private technical school, vocational school, college, university, or institution of post secondary education.

The provisions of this Code section shall not apply to a person who is licensed in accordance with Code Section 16-11-129 or issued a permit pursuant to Code Section 43-38-10, when such person carries or picks up a student at a school building, school function, or school property or on a bus or other transportation furnished by the school or any weapon legally kept within a vehicle in transit through a designated school zone by any person other than a student;

This Code section shall not prohibit any person who resides or works in a business or is in the ordinary course transacting lawful business or any person who is a visitor of such resident located within a school safety zone from carrying, possessing, or having under such person's control a weapon within a school safety zone; provided, however, it shall be unlawful for any such person to carry, possess, or have under such person's control while at a school building or school function or on school property, a school bus, or other transportation furnished by the school any weapon or explosive compound, other than fireworks the possession of which is regulated by Chapter 10 of Title 25.

**Nuclear Power Facility** Georgia Code [16-11-127.2](#)

Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section, it shall be unlawful for any person to carry, possess, or have under such person's control while on the premises of a nuclear power facility a firearm or weapon. Any person who violates this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any person who violates subsection (a) of this Code section with the intent to do bodily harm on the premises of a nuclear power facility shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, by imprisonment for not less than two nor more than 20 years, or both.

This Code section shall not apply to a security officer authorized to carry dangerous weapons pursuant to Code Section [16-11-124](#) who is acting in connection with his or her official duties on the premises of a federally licensed nuclear power facility; nor shall this Code section apply to persons designated in paragraph (3), (4), (5), or (9) of subsection (c) of Code Section [16-11-127.1](#).

**Jail/Prison Guard Line** Georgia Code [42-4-13](#)

It shall be unlawful for any person to come inside the guard lines established at any jail with, or to give or have delivered to an inmate of a jail, any controlled substance, dangerous drug, marijuana, or any gun, pistol, or other dangerous weapon without the knowledge and consent of the jailer or a law enforcement officer.

**Public Fishing Area** Georgia Code [27-4-11.1](#)

It shall be unlawful for any person on any public fishing area owned or operated by the department (Dept. of Natural Resources):

(1) To possess a firearm during a closed hunting season for that area unless such firearm is unloaded and stored in a motor vehicle so as not to be readily accessible

(2) To possess a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle during a legal open hunting season for that area.

**Georgia Capitol Building or any building housing committee offices, committee rooms, or offices of members, officials, or employees of the General Assembly** Georgia Code [16-11-34.1](#)

It shall be unlawful for any person, other than those persons who are exempt from the provisions of Code Sections 16-11-126 through 16-11-128, to enter, occupy, or remain within the state capitol building or any building housing committee offices, committee rooms, or offices of members, officials, or employees of the General Assembly or either house thereof while in the possession of any firearm, knife designed for the purpose of offense and defense, explosive or incendiary device or compound, bludgeon, metal knuckles, or any other dangerous or deadly weapon, instrument, or device.

**Polling Places** Georgia Code [21-2-413](#)

No person except peace officers regularly employed by the federal, state, county, or municipal government or certified security guards shall be permitted to carry firearms within 150 feet of any polling place.

**Stone Mountain Park** (not a part of State Parks and Historic Areas)

The Stone Mountain Memorial Association is an authority created by the State of Georgia. Stone Mountain Park is owned and operated by the Stone Mountain Memorial Association. As a state created authority, it is possibly outside of the pre-emption law, OCGA [16-11-173](#), that by its terms applies to cities and counties.

It is a civil offense to have a firearm or knife designed for offense or defense on the property, this includes the parking lot. If found the weapon will be taken and you will be fined. DeKalb County Magistrate Court handles the case.

**UPDATE:** The local gun rights organization [GeorgiaCarry.Org](#) has [filed a lawsuit](#) to have this ban overturned.

**Army Corps of Engineers Federal Regulation 36 CFR 327.13** (List of [Georgia lakes managed by the Corps of Engineers](#))

- (a) The possession of loaded firearms, ammunition, loaded projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other weapons is prohibited unless:
- (1) In the possession of a Federal, state or local law enforcement officer;
  - (2) Being used for hunting or fishing as permitted under §327.8, with devices being unloaded when transported to, from or between hunting and fishing sites;
  - (3) Being used at authorized shooting ranges; or
  - (4) Written permission has been received from the District Commander.
- (b) Possession of explosives or explosive devices of any kind, including fireworks or other pyrotechnics, is prohibited unless written permission has been received from the District Commander.

**National Parks Federal Regulation 36 CFR 2.4** (List of [National Parks in Georgia](#))

~~(h) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Chapter, a person may possess, carry, and transport concealed, loaded, and operable firearms within a national park area in accordance with the laws of the state in which the national park area, or that portion thereof, is located, except as otherwise prohibited by applicable Federal law.~~

~~(concealed carry with a license on the land but not in the buildings)~~

District Court has temporarily blocked this rule from going into effect. NRA is currently appealing.

**No Signage Laws**

A "No Firearms" sign on a private business does not mean anything. If your firearm is noticed, they simply ask you to leave. If the police arrive and you still refuse to leave you can be charged with criminal trespass. You keep your permit even if convicted.

However, some "public gatherings" (and any of the above areas off-limits) such as a county hospital or the post office may have signs posted to inform you they are off-limits. You probably will lose your permit for several years if convicted.

So, just because you see a sign does not mean it is or isn't off-limits and just because you don't see a sign does not mean it is or isn't off-limits.