

CHAPTER 541 Property Offenses — Chapter Overview

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Document type	chapter
Identifier	541
Citation	Chapter 541
Ordinances detected	S, 116-84
Original source	American Legal Publishing
Content hash	944c44df51e09fd136a2291a475e8d4e5a7816e3f717e398bb51bfd7589e9acd

- Skip to main content
- Search
- Sitemap
- Login
- Select Language
- Resources
- Skip to code content (skip section selection)
- 2025-04 (current)
- Sheffield Lake Overview
- Codified Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH
- CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
- CERTIFICATION
- ROSTER OF OFFICIALS

ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 116-84
COMPARATIVE SECTION TABLE
TABLES OF SPECIAL ORDINANCES OF SHEFFIELD LAKE
CHARTER
PART ONE - ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
PART THREE - TRAFFIC CODE
PART FIVE - GENERAL OFFENSES CODE
CHAPTER 501 General Provisions and Penalty
CHAPTER 505 Animals and Fowl
CHAPTER 509 Disorderly Conduct and Peace Disturbance
CHAPTER 513 Drug Abuse Control
CHAPTER 517 Gambling
CHAPTER 521 Health, Safety and Sanitation
CHAPTER 525 Law Enforcement and Public Office
CHAPTER 529 Liquor Control
CHAPTER 531 Noise Control
CHAPTER 533 Obscenity and Sex Offenses
CHAPTER 537 Offenses Against Persons
CHAPTER 541 Property Offenses
541.01 DETERMINING PROPERTY VALUE IN ARSON.
541.02 ARSON.
541.03 CRIMINAL DAMAGING OR ENDANGERING.
541.04 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF.
541.05 CRIMINAL TRESPASS.
541.051 AGGRAVATED TRESPASS.
541.06 DESTRUCTION OF SHRUBS, TREES OR CROPS.
541.07 DESECRATION.
541.08 BILLPOSTING AND HANDBILLS.
541.09 FRAUDULENT ADVERTISING.
541.10 ETHNIC INTIMIDATION.
541.11 VEHICULAR VANDALISM.
541.12 TRESPASS ON A PLACE OF PUBLIC AMUSEMENT.
541.99 PENALTY.
CHAPTER 545 Theft and Fraud
CHAPTER 549 Weapons and Explosives
CHAPTER 553 Railroads
CHAPTER 557 Watercraft
CHAPTER 561 Weeds and Grass
PART SEVEN - BUSINESS REGULATION CODE
PART NINE - STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE
PART ELEVEN - PLANNING AND ZONING CODE
PART THIRTEEN - BUILDING CODE
PART FIFTEEN - FIRE PREVENTION CODE
OH
Sheffield Lake
Codified Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH

CHAPTER 541 Property Offenses

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CHAPTER 541

Property Offenses

- 541.01 Determining property value in arson.
- 541.02 Arson.
- 541.03 Criminal damaging or endangering.
- 541.04 Criminal mischief.
- 541.05 Criminal trespass.
- 541.051 Aggravated trespass.
- 541.06 Destruction of shrubs, trees or crops.
- 541.07 Desecration.
- 541.08 Billposting and handbills.
- 541.09 Fraudulent advertising.
- 541.10 Ethnic intimidation.
- 541.11 Vehicular vandalism.
- 541.12 Trespass on a place of public amusement.
- 541.99 Penalty.

CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law

Parents' liability for destructive acts of their children - see Ohio R.C. 3109.09

Physical harm to property defined - see GEN. OFF. 501.01(d), (f)

Reimbursement for investigation or prosecution costs - see GEN. OFF. 501.99(a)

Damage to sidewalks - see GEN. OFF. 521.04

Vehicle trespass - see GEN. OFF. 545.06

541.01 DETERMINING PROPERTY VALUE IN ARSON.

(a) The following criteria shall be used in determining the value of property or amount of physical harm involved in a violation of Section 541.02.

(1) If the property is an heirloom, memento, collector's item, antique, museum piece, manuscript, document, record or other thing that is either irreplaceable or is replaceable only on the expenditure of substantial time, effort or money, the value of the property or the amount of physical harm involved is the amount that would compensate the owner for its loss.

(2) If the property is not covered under subsection (a)(1) hereof, and the physical harm is such that the property can be restored substantially to its former condition, the amount of physical harm involved is the reasonable cost of restoring the property.

(3) If the property is not covered under subsection (a)(1) hereof, and the physical harm is such that the property cannot be restored substantially to its former condition, the value of the property, in the case of personal property, is the cost of replacing the property with new property of like kind and quality, and in the case of real property or real property fixtures, is the difference in the fair market value of the property immediately before and immediately after the offense.

(b) As used in this section, "fair market value" has the same meaning as in Section 545.02(c)(3).

(c) Prima-facie evidence of the value of property, as provided in Section 545.02(d) may be used

to establish the value of property pursuant to this section. (ORC 2909.11)

541.02 ARSON.

(a) No person, by means of fire or explosion, shall knowingly cause or create a substantial risk of physical harm to any property of another without the other person's consent.

(b) (1) No person, by means of fire or explosion, shall knowingly cause or create a substantial risk of physical harm to any structure of another that is not an occupied structure;

(2) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsection (b)(1) of this section that the defendant acted with the consent of the other person.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of arson, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the value of the property or the amount of physical harm involved is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, arson is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(ORC 2909.03)

541.03 CRIMINAL DAMAGING OR ENDANGERING.

(a) No person shall cause, or create a substantial risk of physical harm to any property of another without the other person's consent:

(1) Knowingly, by any means;

(2) Recklessly, by means of fire, explosion, flood, poison gas, poison, radioactive material, caustic or corrosive material, or other inherently dangerous agency or substance.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of criminal damaging or endangering, a misdemeanor of the second degree. If violation of this section creates a risk of physical harm to any person, criminal damaging or endangering is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the property involved in a violation is an aircraft, an aircraft engine, propeller, appliance, spare part, or any other equipment or implement used or intended to be used in the operation of an aircraft and if the violation creates a risk of physical harm to any person or if the property involved in a violation is an occupied aircraft, criminal damaging or endangering is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2909.06)

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Revision #1

Created 2026-07-18 21:26:27 UTC by MunicipalWiki Indexer

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