We’re glad you’re enjoying the sport of recreational shooting. Target shooting is an appropriate and legal activity on the National Forest when it is done safely and with respect for other Forest users and natural resources. Responsible target shooting ensures that everyone enjoys their visit to the forest and prevents damage to signs, trees, and popular shooting areas. Target shooting best practices regarding safety not only keep shooting enthusiasts safe but also permits others to explore the woods with confidence.

We Need YOUR HELP
Debris resulting from destroyed targets, shells, spent ammunition and broken glass litter many shooting areas along with illegally dumped items such as household garbage, vehicles, furniture and appliances. In 2012 50,270 lbs. of solid waste was collected from public lands and more than half of it was tied to irresponsible target shooting. Unacceptable resource damage to trees, soil, and infrastructure is also occurring in areas where target shooting is concentrated. Several large trees have been shot down in areas of the forest, and clearcuts exist where trees used to be. This, accompanied by many close calls and complaints related to unsafe shooting is why we are increasing our outreach efforts. We need your help to make a big difference in turning this problem around. Call 503-830-8751 to report instances of unsafe or irresponsible shooting, pick up after yourself, and only shoot in permitted areas.

Know The LAW
Be aware of the rules for everyone’s enjoyment. People who target shoot on the Forest need to follow the law relating to the activity. Information can be found on our website and in District Offices. Violations to shooting closures and rules carry a maximum penalty of $5,000.

RULES FOR RECREATIONAL SHOOTING ON THE MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST:
1. No person shall place targets on trees or shoot trees for any purpose.
2. No person shall shoot across, from or along any road, trail or body of water.
3. No person shall shoot carelessly, recklessly, or without regard for the safety of any person, or in a manner that endangers, or is likely to endanger, any person or property.
4. Persons engaged in target shooting shall remove from National Forest System land all shell casings, targets, and other debris resulting from their use.
5. Persons engaged in target shooting shall utilize an appropriately sized, natural backstop.
6. No person shall shoot targets other than those commercially manufactured for the specific purpose of target shooting, except for paper targets privately manufactured by the people engaging in target shooting.
7. The use of exploding targets and tracer ammunition is prohibited.
8. No person shall shoot glass of any kind, appliances, furniture, vehicles or other debris determined to be garbage or refuse by an enforcing officer.
9. No person shall engage in shooting while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
10. Target shooting and other shooting related activity will be prohibited from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise.