

NEVER POUND ON THE RAMROD. Black Powder and PYRODEX are impact sensitive and could ignite from impact. Keep the ramrod away from your face or body.

STORE YOUR FIREARM SAFELY. Keep firearms and ammunition components away from children. Lock unloaded firearms and ammunition components securely in separate locations.

KNOW YOUR TARGET. Before you pull the trigger, make sure you can see the target and the path of the projectile beyond the target clearly. Never shoot at water, rocks, or any hard surface. Bullets may glance off such surfaces and cause injuries. Be sure all spectators are completely behind you to insure that they are clear of the shot path and any sparks or percussion cap fragments emitted by the firearm.

KNOW THE RANGE OF YOUR FIREARM. Muzzleloading projectiles have a range of more than one-half mile.

IF THE FIREARM FAILS TO FIRE, BE PREPARED FOR A HANGFIRE. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and wait no less than **one full minute** before opening the bolt. A spark may have reached the powder without any sound. **The rifle could fire at any moment during this minute.** If the rifle does not fire within a minute, carefully follow the directions on how to handle a misfire on page 18.

RENDER YOUR FIREARM INOPERABLE WHENEVER YOU ARE NOT SHOOTING. Never place the percussion cap on the nipple until just before firing and remove it immediately if you do not fire. Never carry or store a loaded firearm in a building or vehicle. Unload it by firing it into a suitable backstop before returning to your vehicle, entering a building, crossing or climbing up or down any obstacle that may prevent you from keeping full control over the firearm, such as a fallen tree, fence, tree stand, or slippery area. Failure to follow this rule may cause serious injury or death to the shooter or bystanders.

BLACKPOWDER LEAVES HEAVY CORROSIVE RESIDUES. A thorough cleaning and lubing are absolute necessities before storage and prior to loading and shooting. Follow the cleaning instructions on page 25. Always carry loading and cleaning equipment with you in the field.

WARNING: Discharging firearm in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition components may result in exposure to lead, a substance known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm, and other serious physical injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.

IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE FIREARM

THE SAFETY