

TOWNSHIP OF DEERFIELD
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
PROPOSED ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING
WILDLIFE FEEDING
NO. 2024-9

WHEREAS, the Township of Deerfield to comply with implementation of the final Tier A Municipal Stormwater General Permit (effective January, 2023), the permit contains general conditions municipalities are required to comply with the; and

WHEREAS, part of the conditions include adopting community wide ordinances;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Deerfield, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of all members of the governing body thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

An Ordinance to prohibit the feeding of unconfined wildlife in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township of Deerfield so as to protect to public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for the failure to comply.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this Chapter clearly demonstrates a different meaning. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words used in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- a. Feed – to give, place, expose, deposit, distribute or scatter any edible material with the intention of feeding, attracting or enticing wildlife. Feeding does not include baiting in the legal taking of fish and/or game.
- b. Person – any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, or political subdivision of this State subject to municipal jurisdiction.
- c. Wildlife – all animals that are neither human nor domesticated.

SECTION 3. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- a. No person shall feed, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township of Deerfield, any wildlife, excluding confined wildlife (for example, wildlife confined in zoos, parks or rehabilitation centers, or unconfined wildlife at environmental education centers, or feral cats as part of an approved Trap-Neuter-Release program).

SECTION 4. ENFORCEMENT

- a. The provisions of this article shall be enforced by the New Jersey State Police and/or the Deerfield Township Code Enforcement Officer.
- b. Any person found to be in violation of this ordinance shall be ordered to cease the feeding immediately.

SECTION 5. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTY

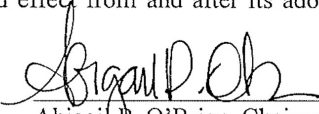
Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

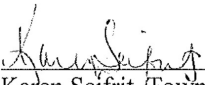
Each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase of this Ordinance is declared to be an independent section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase, and the finding or holding of any such portion of this Ordinance to be unconstitutional, void, or ineffective for any cause, or reason, shall not affect any other portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and any publication as may be required by law.


Abigail P. O'Brien, Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:


Karen Seifrit, Township Clerk
Township of Deerfield

First Reading: April 3, 2024

Publication: April 9, 2024

Adoption: April 17, 2024

Publication of Final Adoption April 23, 2024

NOTICE

The foregoing proposed Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Deerfield, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey, held on April 3, 2024 and will be considered for final reading and adoption by said governing body at a regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the Township of Deerfield Municipal Building, 736 Landis Avenue, Rosenhayn, New Jersey, at which time and place any person desiring to be heard upon the same will be given an opportunity to be so heard.