

TOWNSHIP OF MAURICE RIVER

ORDINANCE NO. 731

**AN ORDINANCE OF MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP,
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PROHIBITING THE FEEDING OF
UNCONFINED WILDLIFE IN ANY PUBLIC PARK OR ON ANY OTHER
PROPERTY OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE
TOWNSHIP OF MAURICE RIVER**

SECTION I: 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 Maurice River, so as to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply

SECTION II: 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 III: PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- A. No person shall feed, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township of Maurice River, any wildlife, excluding confined wildlife (for example, wildlife confined to 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 IV: ENFORCEMENT

- A. The provisions of this Article shall be enforced by the Code Enforcement Officer of Maurice River Township and the New Jersey State Police.
- B. Any person found to be in violation of this ordinance shall be ordered to cease the feeding immediately.

SECTION V: 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 \$250.00

SECTION VI: 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 VII: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon the adoption and publication of notice of adoption as prescribed by law.

ATTEST:

DENISE PETERSON, TOWNSHIP
CLERK

Ken Whildin, MAYOR

Bill Ashton, DEPUTY MAYOR

Joe Sterling, Committeeperson

First Reading	<u>November 16, 2023</u>
Publication	<u>November 28, 2023</u>
Public Hearing	<u>December 21, 2023</u>
Adoption	<u>December 21, 2023</u>
Publication of Notice of Adoption	<u>December 28, 2023</u>