

BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-15

**ORDINANCE REGULATING THE FEEDING OF
WILDLIFE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL IN
ACCORDANCE WITH MANDATES FROM NEW JERSEY'S
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.**

CHAPTER XX
PROHIBITED WILDLIFE FEEDING.

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 Borough of Rocky Hill, to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

SECTION II.

Definitions.

For 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 discretionary.

- 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.

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

**SECTION IV.
Violations, Penalties, and Enforcement.**

Any person who violates the terms of this Ordinance after having been notified shall pay a fine of not less than \$1,500.00 but no more than \$7,500.00 plus court costs. This Chapter shall be enforced by the Borough's Zoning Officer, the Borough's Sewer Administrator, or other Borough personnel as may be assigned by resolution of the Rocky Hill Borough Council.

Any person found to be in violation of this Ordinance shall immediately cease any prohibited feeding.

**SECTION V.
Repealer.**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with any part of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are in conflict or inconsistent.

**SECTION VI.
Severability.**

If any section, provision, or part of provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unenforceable or invalid by any court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance, or any part thereof, other than the part so held unenforceable or invalid.

**SECTION VII.
Effective Date.**

This Ordinance shall take effect after passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading on April 8, 2024, at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill and will be taken up for final consideration and passage at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill to be held on May 13, 2024, at 7:00PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, to be held at the Borough of Rocky Hill Municipal Building 15 Montgomery Avenue Rocky Hill, New Jersey 08553

Copies of said Ordinance are at the office of the Rocky Hill Borough Municipal Clerk 15 Montgomery Avenue Rocky Hill, NJ 08553, and posted on the Borough website.

ROBERT UHRIK, MAYOR

ATTEST:

REBECCA NEWMAN, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK

Introduction:
Public Hearing:
Adoption:
Publication: