

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 -09

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF STAFFORD,
COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 60
ENTITLED, "ANIMALS," SO AS TO AMEND SECTION
ON WILDLIFE FEEDING**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the governing body of the
Township of Stafford, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 60 of the Municipal Code of the Township of Stafford, entitled
"Animals," is hereby amended and supplemented so as to amend section 60-26, entitled, "Wildlife
feeding," so as to read in its entirety as follows:

60-26. Wildlife feeding.

A. For the purpose of this section, the following terms, phrases, words and their
derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this
section 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.

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.

PERSON — Any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm,
association or political subdivision of this state subject to municipal jurisdiction.

WILDLIFE — All animals that are neither human nor domesticated.

B. No person shall feed, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated
by the Township of Stafford, wildlife, excluding confined wildlife (for

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example, wildlife confined in zoos, parks or rehabilitation centers, or unconfined wildlife at environmental education centers).

C. Except as permitted by this section or other applicable law, no person shall feed wildlife, which shall include, but not be limited to, seagulls, ducks, squirrels, raccoons, Canada geese and waterfowl, on any private property.

D. This section shall be enforced by the Police Department, any Animal Control Officer, or the Code Enforcement Officer of the Township of Stafford. Any person found to be in violation of this section shall be ordered to cease the feeding immediately.

E. The feeding of songbirds and other backyard birds shall be permitted outdoors on private property only if:

1. The feeding does not create an accumulation of droppings on the neighboring properties, or on the feeder's property such that the accumulation of droppings is discernible by sight and/or smell from a neighboring property; and
2. The property does not become an attractant for rodents or other wild animals; and
3. All birdfeeders are placed at least five feet above the ground; and
4. The birdfeeder's capacity for seed is no more than five pounds.

F. Every property owner shall have the duty to remove any named material placed on the owner's property in violation of this article.

G. Failure to remove such materials or to make such modifications within 24 hours

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after notice from the Township shall constitute a violation of this article and be subject to the penalties established by section 60-28 of this Chapter.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

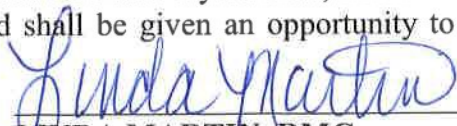
SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

SECTION 4. The ordinance shall be published at least once in an official newspaper of the Township of Stafford at least ten (10) days prior to the time fixed for consideration of the final passage of the ordinance.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect after second reading and publication as required by law.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Stafford, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, held on **March 21st, 2023**, and will be considered for second reading and final passage at the regular meeting of said Governing Body to be held on the **11th day of April, 2023**, at **7:00 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as this matter can be reached, at the meeting room of the Municipal Building located at 260 East Bay Avenue, Manahawkin, New Jersey, 08050 at which time all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning this ordinance.



**LINDA MARTIN, RMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK,
TOWNSHIP OF STAFFORD**

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CERTIFICATION

I, **LINDA MARTIN**, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Stafford, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted on second reading and public comment by the Stafford Township Governing Body at their meeting held on the 11th day of April 2023.



LINDA MARTIN, RMC

Municipal Clerk, Stafford Township

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