

TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-25

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD AMENDING ORDINANCE 2023-25
REPEALING CHAPTER 176-48 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE CAPTIONED “ANIMALS” AND
REPLACING IT WITH A NEW CHAPTER 176-48 CAPTIONED “ANIMALS”**

WHEREAS, on a periodic basis the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Waterford review various provisions of the Township Code and in doing so have determined that Chapter 176-48 of the Township Code captioned “Animals” should be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Chapter 176-48 captioned “Animals”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Waterford, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 176-48 of the Township Code captioned “Animals” is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. A new Chapter 176-48 of the Township Code captioned “Animals” is hereby adopted as follows:

§ 176-48 **Animals.**

A.

Agricultural animals. Agricultural animals, as defined in § **176-9** of this chapter, with the exception of horses and chickens or ducks in residential zones, may be kept and maintained only if the following conditions are met.

(1) The lot on which the agricultural animals are to be located is at least five acres in size.

(2) The lot on which the agricultural animals are to be located is qualified, pursuant to the Farmland Assessment Act of 1964 (N.J.S.A. 54:4-23.1 et seq.) as land actively devoted to agricultural use.

(3) A farm management plan prepared in accordance with the guidelines of the U.S. Department of Agricultural, Natural Resources Conservation Service, is filed with the Township.

(4) The use of the animals directly relates to the agricultural use for which the farmland assessment has been granted.

(5) Appropriate shelter, as defined in § 176-9 of this chapter, shall be provided for all agricultural animals.

(6) No shipping container, crate, truck body, van or other similar enclosures shall be utilized for sheltering or housing of the agricultural animals.

B.

Horses. Horses are permitted on lots in all zoning districts of one acre or more, exclusive of buffers, easements and other specific restrictions, if the following conditions are met:

(1) There shall be no more than two horses located on a minimum of one acre of fenced land, with an additional 10,000 square feet of fenced land area required for each additional horse.

(2) No parcel of less than five acres shall be used for a commercial boarding stable.

C.

Chickens and Ducks are permitted on Residential Zoned Lots in accordance with the following table:

Properties between 0.5 acres up to less than 5 acres shall be permitted to have up to 12 Chickens or Ducks in accordance with the following table:

Number of Chickens or Ducks	Minimum Size of Enclosed Yard	Minimum Size of Coop or Shelter
1-3	24 square feet	6 square feet
4	32 sq ft	8 sq ft
5	40 sq ft	10 sq ft
6	48 sq ft	12 sq ft
7	56 sq ft	14 sq ft
8	64 sq ft	16 sq ft
9	72 sq ft	18 sq ft
10	80 sq ft	20 sq ft
11	88 sq ft	22 sq ft
12 (Maximum)	96 sq ft	24 sq ft

(1) All Chickens and Ducks shall be contained in a secure coop or fenced run constructed to prevent the animals escape. No free range birds shall be permitted. All coops and pens shall be fully enclosed by a fence and constructed with a roof. Chickens/Ducks coops shall have a buffer distance between side and rear property lines and the edge of any coop or run of 25 feet.

All fully enclosed coops and runs are to be located only in the rear yard. The area of the rear yard would be defined as the area between the rear building line of the principal building and the respective 25 foot buffer line measured from the rear and side property lines. A no fee permit shall be required for any residential property owner requesting to have Chickens or Ducks located on the resident's property. The Application Form and Permit shall be obtained from the Township Municipal Clerk's Office.

(2) The keeping of roosters on residential zoned lots is prohibited.

(3) The slaughtering of chickens or ducks in public view, including open or exposed yards, is prohibited.

(4) All chickens or ducks shall remain contained on their owner's property.

(4) The resident or owner (as appropriate) shall be obligated to notify the Animal Control Officer within 10 days of any rapid die-offs of their flock.

D.

General requirements.

(1) All animals and animal shelters and stables shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition and maintained to eliminate objectionable odors and accumulation of flies. Bedding straw and manure shall be properly disposed on a regular basis.

(2) Fencing shall be provided and maintained to prevent the animals from leaving the premises in which they are maintained. All fences shall be constructed of material as defined in § **176-9** of this chapter and in such a manner as to prevent the escape of animals.

(3) Shelters and stables for animals shall not be located closer than 50 feet to any property line. Shelters and stables for animals shall not be located in a front yard.

(4) Minimum stall, stable or shelter size for each horse shall be 100 square feet (10 feet by 10 feet).

(5) Manure shall be removed regularly from all interior shelters and stables. Once manure is removed, it should be handled in one of the following manners:

(a) Used immediately by incorporation into the soil of a garden or by spreading on neighboring fields. If manure is to spread on neighboring fields, application is not to exceed 10 tons per acre or the latest recommendations from the state's land grant college.

(b) Incorporated into a composting procedure so that odors, flies, and other vermin do not create a problem. A manure pile does not qualify as a composting procedure.

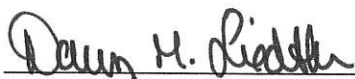
(c) Stored in a rain-free, well-drained, screened and fly- and vermin-free storage area located at least 50 feet or more from the property line until the manure can be handled in any of the above alternatives.

(6) All structures and stables shall meet existing building codes, and all fencing shall meet existing codes.

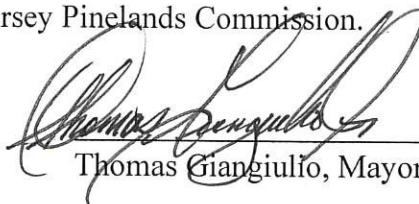
Section 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances that are inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency only.

Section 4. If the provisions of any section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision, or clause of this Ordinance shall be judged invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such order of judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this Ordinance.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall only take effect after final adoption and publication as required by law and approval by the New Jersey Pinelands Commission.



Dawn Liedtka, RMC / CMR Clerk



Thomas Giangulfo, Mayor

Intro: October 25, 2023
 Re-Intro: November 21, 2023
 Public Hearing: December 13, 2023
 Adopted: Dec 13, 2023

UPON INTRODUCTION ON October 25, 2023					
	Jones-Freitag	Thompson	Wade	Yeatman	Giangiulio
YES	X	X	X	X	X
ABSTAIN					
NO					
ABSENT					
UPON RE- INTRODUCTION ON November 21, 2023					
	Jones-Freitag	Thompson	Wade	Yeatman	Giangiulio
YES	X	X	X	X	X
ABSTAIN					
NO					
ABSENT					
UPON ADOPTION ON December 13, 2023					
	Jones-Freitag	Thompson	Wade	Yeatman	Giangiulio
YES	X		X	X	X
ABSTAIN					
NO					
ABSENT		X			

CERTIFICATION

I, Dawn Liedtka, Clerk of the Township of Waterford, Camden County, New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be true and exact copy of the Ordinance which was finally adopted by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Waterford at a Meeting held on the 13th day of December, 2023.

Dawn H. Liedtka
 Dawn Liedtka, RMC / CMR Clerk