

EXPLANATION: This Ordinance prohibits and establishes regulations on the feeding of wildlife on public property throughout the Borough in compliance with NJDEP requirements.

**BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS
ORDINANCE NO. 2023-22**

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING WILDLIFE FEEDING ON
PUBLIC PROPERTY THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH OF
FAR HILLS

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Far Hills, in the County of Somerset and State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. The following requirements and regulations shall be established in the Borough of Far Hills:

WILDLIFE FEEDING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

Article 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 Far Hills, so as to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

Article 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 Ordinance 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.

Article III Prohibited Conduct.

No person shall feed, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Borough of Far Hills, 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).

Article IV Enforcement.

a. This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Police Department, Zoning Officer, and/or Construction Code Enforcement Official or designated representative of the Borough of Far Hills.

b. Any person found to be in violation of this Ordinance shall be ordered to cease the feeding immediately.

Article V Violations and Penalties.

Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to the general penalty provisions of the Borough of Far Hills.

Section 2. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance and they shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any prior ordinance of the Borough of Far Hills, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern, and the inconsistencies of the prior ordinance are hereby repealed. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Ordinances of the Borough of Far Hills are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

Section 4. Within five (5) days after its adoption by the Council, this Ordinance shall be presented to the Mayor for his approval and signature, which approval shall be granted or denied within ten (10) days of receipt of same, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:60-5(d). If the Mayor fails to return this Ordinance with either his approval or objection to same within ten (10) days after it has been presented to him, then this Ordinance shall be deemed approved.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon (1) adoption; (2) approval by the Mayor pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:60-5(d); and (3) publication in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.


Introduced: November 13, 2023
Published: November 16, 2023
Adopted: November 27, 2023
Published: November 30, 2023

ATTEST:



Dorothy S. Hicks
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS

By: 

Kevin P. Welsh
Mayor