

ORDINANCE NO. RO-12-05

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
REGARDING THE FEEDING OF WILDLIFE**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to prohibit the feeding of unconfined wildlife in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township of Washington so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

SECTION 2. 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. WILDLIFE – all animals that are neither human nor domesticated.

SECTION 3. Prohibited Conduct. No person shall feed, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township, any wildlife, excluding confined wildlife (for example, wildlife confined in zoos, parks or rehabilitation centers, or unconfined wildlife at environmental education centers).

SECTION 4. Enforcement. All police officers of the Township, regular and special, and the Health Officer, are hereby given full power and authority and are charged with the duty to enforce all provisions of this article.

SECTION 5. Penalties. Any person or persons, firm, association or corporation violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to any one or more of the following penalties: a fine not exceeding \$1,250, but in no event less than \$100, imprisonment for any term not exceeding 90 days, or a period of community service not exceeding 90 days.

SECTION 6. All Ordinances of the Township of Washington which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 7. If any 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.

SECTION 8. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication as required by law.

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF MORRIS
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ATTEST:

Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk

By: _____
Kenneth W. Short, Mayor