



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

ORDINANCE O-25-14

AMENDING CHAPTER 3 "GENERAL POLICE REGULATIONS", SECTION 3-21 "WILDLIFE FEEDING" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS

WHEREAS, Chapter 3, Section 21 of the Borough Code establishes guidelines for wildlife feeding and prohibits the feeding of unconfined wildlife in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Borough of Highlands to protect the public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has analyzed and evaluated the Borough Code and has recommended certain changes with respect to the definition of "Wildlife", as well as Prohibited Conduct as it pertains to the feeding of wildlife in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Borough, within Section 3-21 of the Borough Code; and

WHEREAS, the governing body finds that these recommendations further protect the general health, safety and welfare of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the governing body of the Borough of Highlands as follows:

SECTION I.

Borough Code Chapter 3 "General Police Regulations", Section 3-21 "Wildlife Feeding", Section 3-21.2 "Definitions", and Section 3-21.3 "Prohibited Conduct" shall be amended by the following: (All additions are shown in **bold italics with underlines**. The deletions are shown as ~~***strikeovers in bold italics***~~):

§ 3-21 Wildlife Feeding.

§ 3-21.1 Purpose.

This section remains unchanged.

§ 3-21.2 Definitions.

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

Shall mean 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

Shall mean any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, or political subdivision of this State subject to municipal jurisdiction.

WILDLIFE

Shall mean all animals that are neither human nor domesticated **and includes all organisms that live wild in an area, including, but not limited to, bears, coyotes, deer, stray and feral cats, foxes, groundhogs, opossum, raccoons, skunks, waterfowl, wolves, and hybrid wolves.**

§ 3-21.3 Prohibited Conduct.

No person shall feed, cause to be fed, or in any manner provide access to food for, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Borough of Highlands, any wildlife, excluding confined wildlife (for example, wildlife confined in zoos, parks or rehabilitation centers, or unconfined wildlife at environmental education centers).

No person shall purposely or knowingly leave or store any refuse, garbage, food product, pet food, forage product, or supplement, salt, seed or birdseed, fruit or grain in a manner that would constitute an attractant to any wild animal or waterfowl.

No person shall fail to take remedial action to avoid contact or conflict with wild animals, which may include the securing or removal of outdoor trash, cooking grills, pet food, bird feeders or any other similar food source or attractant, after being advised by the Borough to undertake such remedial action. Further, after an initial contact or conflict with a wild animal, no person shall continue to provide, or otherwise fail to secure or remove, any likely food sources or attractants, including but not limited to outdoor trash, grills, pet food or bird feeders.

The Remaining Sections of Chapter 3, Section 21 entitled “Wildlife Feeding” of the Borough Code shall remain unchanged.

SECTION II. SEVERABILITY. 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, which shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

SECTION III. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage as provided by law.

First Reading and Set Hearing Date for O-25-14:

	INTRODUCED	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CERVANTES						
CHELAK						
MELNYK						
OLSZEWSKI						
BROULLON						

This is a Certified True copy of the Original Ordinance on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

DATE OF VOTE: June 18, 2025

Nancy Tran, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Highlands

Public Hearing for O-25-14:

	INTRODUCED	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CERVANTES						
CHELAK						
MELNYK						
OLSZEWSKI						
BROULLON						

This is a Certified True copy of the Original Ordinance on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

DATE OF VOTE: July 16, 2025

Carolyn Broullon, Mayor

Nancy Tran, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Highlands