

Introduced: 06/13/2023
Public Hearing: 07/11/2023
Adopted: 07/11/2023

**TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 14-2023**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY, HUNTERDON
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY CREATING TITLE 6, ANIMALS, CHAPTER 6.08,
WILDLIFE FEEDING, OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has determined that pet waste presents significant pollution hazards to streams and waterways, including those located in the Township of Tewksbury (the "Township"); and

WHEREAS, in August 2022, NJDEP re-classified 101 municipalities, including the Township, from MS4 Permit Program Tier B to Tier A; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee finds and declares that in order to comply with the Tier A MS4 Permit Program requirement, it is in the best interests of the Township and its residents to prohibit the feeding of wildlife.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Title 6, Animals, Chapter 6.08, Wildlife Feeding, of the Township Code of Ordinances is hereby created as follows:

6.08.010 – Purpose.

To prohibit the feeding of unconfined wildlife in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township of Tewksbury, so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

6.08.020- Definitions.

The following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meaning stated herein.

- 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.

6.08.030 – Prohibited Conduct.

No person shall feed, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township of Tewksbury, any wildlife. Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit the feeding of confined wildlife at zoos, parks or rehabilitation centers, or unconfined wildlife at environmental education centers, or feral cats as part of an approved Trap-Neuter-Release program.

6.08.040 – Enforcement.

The provisions of this chapter may be enforced by any officer of the Township of Tewksbury.

6.08.050 – Violations and Penalties.

Any person who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the penalties set forth in the General Penalty Chapter of this Code.

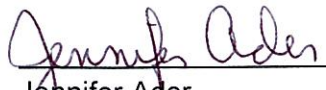
SECTION 2. All actions of the Township taken prior to the date of adoption hereof contemplated by this Ordinance are hereby ratified and approved.

SECTION 3. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any remaining part thereof.

SECTION 4. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances of the Township of Tewksbury heretofore adopted that are inconsistent with any of the terms and provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

I HEREBY CERTIFY the above to be a true copy of an Ordinance introduced by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury at a duly convened meeting held on June 13, 2023 and adopted on July 11, 2023.



Jennifer Ader
Township Clerk

