

**TOWN OF CAMDEN POLICE ORDINANCE  
CHAPTER VIII  
PART III-D**

**Prohibition of Feeding of Wild Animals**

**SECTION 1 – PURPOSE**

The intent of this ordinance is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community and its wildlife by prohibiting the feeding of wild animals and waterfowl, including ducks, geese, and gulls, on public and private property in the town of Camden. It has been established that feeding waterfowl and other wild animals increases the potential for damage to public parks and private property, may elevate the potential for the spread of disease in people, and contributes to water quality problems in Camden harbor and Megunticook River. In addition, it is the intent of this ordinance to protect the welfare of the waterfowl and wild animals themselves, as wildlife studies have shown that feeding waterfowl and other wild animals can interrupt their normal migration patterns, can make them more aggressive in demanding food, cause nutritional problems, expose them to danger by eliminating their natural fear of predators, and promote the spread of diseases and disease-carrying parasites such as ticks.

**SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS**

As used in this ordinance, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

"Wild animal" shall include any animal, which is not normally domesticated in this state, including but not limited to bears, coyotes, deer, feral cats, foxes, groundhogs, opossums, raccoons, skunks, and waterfowl.

"Waterfowl" shall include any bird that frequents the water, or lives about rivers, lakes, etc., or on or near the sea; an aquatic fowl, including but not limited to ducks, geese, and gulls.

**SECTION 3 - PROHIBITIONS**

- A. No person shall feed or provide food to any waterfowl on public or private property in the town of Camden. It is prohibited to place, deposit, scatter or distribute in a location accessible to waterfowl any type of food, including but not limited to corn, wheat or other grains, bread, popcorn, bird seed, scraps or any substance liable to be eaten by waterfowl or other wild animals.
- B. No person shall harbor, keep, or feed any wild animal or bird, on private or public property in a manner that creates an unclean, unsafe, or unsanitary condition, either on such person's property or on the property of another or of the Town, or that causes

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annoyance to others or otherwise deleteriously affects the quiet enjoyment by others of any private or public property.

- C. This ordinance does not prohibit the feeding of songbirds using well-maintained bird feeders.

### **SECTION 4 – VIOLATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

Any violation of the prohibitions in Section 3 shall be considered a civil violation as defined in 17-A M.R.S.A. § 4-B and prosecuted under Maine Rule of Civil Procedure 80H. The violator shall be subject to penalties of \$25 for the first violation of Section 3, and \$100 for the second and each subsequent violation. Each ongoing day of the violation(s) shall constitute a separate offense. In addition to the financial penalties so provided, the violator shall be subject to an injunctive order to cease the violation and conduct any required clean-up, and to an order requiring the violator to pay the Town's legal fees and costs in pursuing any required investigative or enforcement action.

This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Town of Camden Code Enforcement Officer, if the violation occurs on private property, and by any law enforcement officer if the violation occurs on public property.