

ORDINANCE OF THE  
TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN, RHODE ISLAND

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN CODE OF THE  
TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN

**TITLE IX: GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:**

FIRST: *The following new chapter is inserted into Title IX: General Regulations:*

**CHAPTER 90A: FEEDING NON-DOMESTICATED ANIMALS**

Section

- 90A.01 Generally
- 90A.02 Definitions
- 90A.03 Prohibitions
- 90A.04 Exceptions
- 90A.05 Enforcement

**§ 90A.01 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the health and safety of residents in the Town of Middletown with respect to dangers associated with coyotes and other non-domesticated animals by minimizing opportunities for such animals to obtain food from sources controlled or controllable by humans..

**§ 90A.02 DEFINITIONS**

A. "Attractant" means any substance which could reasonably be expected to attract or does attract coyotes or other non-domesticated animals, including but not limited to, garbage, food products, pet food, carcasses, feed, grain.

B. "Feeding" means the leaving of food of any kind where it is accessible to coyotes or other non-domesticated animals.

C. "Food" means all substances consumed by humans or animals for nourishment except grass and other vegetation, growing crops, and food that is canned or stored in sealed or closable containers.

### **§ 90A.03 PROHIBITIONS**

A. No person shall feed or in any manner provide an attractant to coyotes or other non-domesticated animals; provided that domestic pets are not attractants, and feeding pets outdoors does not create an attractant if the pet eats all the food immediately, or the remaining food is removed as soon as the pet stops eating, or the pet is fed in a secure cage or other enclosure.

B. No person shall leave, store, or maintain any food or attractant in a manner, area, or location accessible to coyotes or other non-domesticated animals.

### **§ 90A.04 EXCEPTIONS**

A. Food for birds or squirrels that is in a feeder located within 100 feet of a residence and elevated to be inaccessible to coyotes.

B. Outdoor feeding of farm animals, provided (1) animal food, when not being fed to animals, is stored in a building or a closed container; (2) excessive amounts of food, based on the animals' eating history, are not provided to the animals; (3) injured, old, feeble, or prey-sized animals are not left outside unattended; and (4) all other reasonable efforts are made to reduce attractants to coyotes and other non-domesticated animals.

### **§ 90A.05 ENFORCEMENT**

Violations of this ordinance are punishable by a civil penalty of from one hundred (\$100) to five hundred (\$500) dollars for each day of violation.

*SECOND: This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and its provisions shall supersede any inconsistent or contrary provision in any other ordinance.*