

VILLAGE OF RAVENA

LOCAL LAW NO. 2-2021

WILDLIFE FEEDING LAW

A LOCAL LAW TO PROHIBIT THE FEEDING OF WILDLIFE WITHIN THE VILLAGE LIMITS OF THE VILLAGE OF RAVENA, TOWN OF COEYMANS, ALBANY COUNTY, NEW YORK IS SET FORTH HEREINBELOW.

BE IT ENACTED by the Village Board of the Village of Ravena, Town of Coeymans, Albany County, New York as follows:

Section 1. This law shall be known as the WILDLIFE FEEDING LAW and shall appear in the Village Code as enacted;

Section 2. Definitions. Unless otherwise expressly stated the following terms shall have the following meanings:

“Wildlife” shall mean all animals including waterfowl of a non-domesticated nature appearing within the region of the Village of Ravena exclusive of songbirds which is defined as a bird with a musical song that perches;

“Feed” shall mean to give, place, expose, deposit, distribute or scatter any edible material with the intention of feeding, attracting or enticing wildlife including without limitation all waterfowl except for songbirds;

“Village Property” shall mean any and all land within the incorporated limits of the Village of Ravena including but not limited to parks, preserves, beaches, drains and all private property;

“Person” shall mean any individual, company, partnership, corporation, limited partnership, joint venture or any other legal entity;

Section 3. Prohibition. No person shall feed or provide food for any wildlife within the Village limits at any time of the year except for songbirds which may be provided with food on a regular feeder no less than four feet (4’) elevated from ground level and adequately secured. It shall be unlawful for any person to feed or cause to be fed any wildlife except as excepted hereinabove within the areas designated as “The Village of Ravena”.

Section 4. Enforcement. In addition to such powers granted pursuant to other provisions of law, all law enforcement agencies including the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Department of Parks and Recreation, The Town of Coeymans Police, and the Albany County Sheriff are herein authorized to issue appearance tickets for any violation of this law provided that such personnel initially issue a warning to a violator of this law in the first instance only. The provisions of this law may also be enforced by any other County or State personnel authorized to issue appearance tickets and such provisions shall not be construed to affect or limit the powers of arrest or issuance of an appearance ticket by a peace officer or police officer under the Criminal Procedure Law;

Section 5. Penalties. A violation of section three (3) of this law shall be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) as and for a first offence after an initial warning. Any subsequent violation occurring within five (5) years of the date of such initial violation shall be punishable by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00);

Section 6. Applicability. The provisions of this law shall not apply to property owned by or under the jurisdiction of other municipal authorities, the State of New York and any agency thereof, or the government of the United State of America;

Section 7. Effective Date. This local law shall become effective immediately after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that no appearance ticket shall be issued pursuant to section five of this local law until such effective date. This law shall take such effect immediately upon the filing with the New York State Department of State through the Secretary of State;

Section 8. SEQRA Determination. It is hereby determined pursuant to the provisions of SEQRA that this action is "Unlisted"; and further, that upon the review of the Environmental Assessment Form ("EAF") for this action, the recommendation of a negative declaration from the Village of Ravena Board, and supporting documentation, such action is determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and does not require further environmental review. A record of such determination shall be maintained in a file readily accessible to the public at the office of the Clerk of the Village of Ravena.