

Town of Yarmouth  
**FEEDING WILD ANIMALS BYLAW**

Effective: January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Amended: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
TOY 71



- 1.0** This Bylaw shall be known as the “Feeding Wild Animals Bylaw”.
- 2.0** Definitions
  - a. “Public Place” means streets, public parks and trails, property owned by the Town, and recreation facilities funded or partially funded by the Town;
  - b. “Wild Animal” means any animal which is not domesticated.
  - c. "Songbird" means any bird belonging to the oscine division in ornithology; but does not include crows, pigeons or seagulls.
  - d. “Hummingbird” means any bird of the family Trochilidae in ornithology.
- 3.0** No person shall feed one or more deer, raccoons, or any other wild animals in any place in such a manner or to such an extent that doing so causes or may cause an unreasonable interference with another persons’ use and enjoyment of his or her property, or of a public place.
- 3.1** No person shall feed any wildlife or wild animal on private or public property.
- 3.2** No person shall place any food, pet food or feeding device on any property in a manner that attracts wildlife or a wild animal.
- 3.3** No person shall feed any bird other than a Songbird or Hummingbird.
- 3.4** No person shall feed a Songbird unless the following feeding requirements are met by the person:
  - a. The person has the permission of the owner or occupant of the property where the feeding takes place; and
  - b. The food intended for the Songbird is placed in a bird feeding device that is sufficiently above grade as to not attract or be accessible by wildlife or wild animals; and
  - c. Bird feeding practices do not attract large flocks of homing birds such as wild, feral or domestic pigeons; and
  - d. Spillage of food upon the ground is removed by the person or property owner or occupier forthwith and disposed of in such a manner that it does not attract wildlife, wild animals, feral or stray domestic animals; and
  - e. The process of feeding does not interfere with the normal use or enjoyment of any other property.
- 3.5** Every property shall be kept free of rodents, vermin, insects and other pests. No owner or occupier of property shall permit an accumulation of dog feces or allow offensive odours coming from compost, or food to be emitted or escape from the property that could attract wildlife, wild animals, rodents, vermin, insects or other pests to the property.

**4.0 Exemptions**

The following circumstances are to be exempt and allow the following:

- a. Feeding of Songbirds and bird feeders on private property, where the property owner has given permission to do so and in accordance with this by-law.
- b. Leaving food as bait to trap a nuisance animal
- c. Feeding of a managed colony of stray or feral cats
- d. Feeding as part of a research program undertaken by a university, college or similarly provincially or federally recognized research institution

**5.0** Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is punishable on summary conviction by a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$1000.00.

<b>Clerk's Annotation for Official Bylaw Book</b>	
Date of Adoption: January 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	
Date of Approval of Amended Bylaw: October 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	
I certify that this 'Feeding Wild Animals Bylaw' was adopted by Council as indicated above.	
Town Clerk:	Date:

**Adopted**

Date of First Reading	August 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
Notice of Intent to Consider	August 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 – December 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021
Date of Second Reading	January 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2022
Date of Publication	January 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2022

**Amended:**

Date of First Reading	August 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Notice of Intent to Consider	September 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2025
Date of Second Reading	October 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Date of Publication	October 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025