

Summit Township, Erie County, PA

ORDINANCE #2000-03

WILD ANIMALS

September 5, 2000

**WHEREAS**, the Supervisors of Summit Township, Erie County, PA, have determined a need for control of boarding, breeding, housing, keeping, or maintaining, wild animals within the boundaries of Summit Township; and

**WHEREAS**, controlling the boarding, breeding, housing, keeping, or maintaining, of wild animals within the boundaries of Summit Township would be in furtherance of the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of Summit Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Summit, Erie County, Pennsylvania, hereby ENACTS AND ORDAINS that:

No person shall board, breed, house, keep, or maintain, any wild animal which is prohibited or protected by Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, or otherwise controlled or prohibited by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. No person shall board, breed, house, keep or maintain any animal that is wild, dangerous, noxious or naturally inclined to do harm in any place.

**DEFINING WILD ANIMALS:**

For the purpose of this Ordinance, animal shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- A. All members of the dog (Canidae) family, except commonly accepted domesticated dogs.
- B. All members of the cat (Felidae) family, except commonly accepted domesticated cats.
- C. All members of the bear (Ursidae) family; weasel (Mustelidae) family, including weasels, martens, minks, wolverines, badgers, otters, ermine, etc.; non-human primates, porcupine (Erithizontidae) family; racoon (Procyonidae) family; skunks, mongoose, and all other mammalian species not commonly accepted as domestic animals.

D. All venomous snakes, including, but not limited to, all members of the families of Viperidae (vipers and pit vipers), Elapidae (cobras), Hydrophidae (seasnakes), venomous Colubridae (boomslang, twig snake and keel back snake genus); all members of the order Crocodilia including alligators, crocodiles, caimans and gharials, venomous fish other than those commonly kept in small aquariums and posing no significant hazard to humans or domestic animals, piranha, sharks, barracuda and other predatory fish other than common small aquarium species posing no significant hazard to humans or domestic animals.

All reptilian species not prohibited as pets or specimens must be contained within habitats designed to prevent escape; shall be transported in escape-proof containers; shall not be handled openly in public places unless the handler is conducting an educational meeting or is demonstrating a reptile for sale within a commercial animal establishment; and shall not be released or abandoned except for native reptiles which may be released at their local point of capture, or wild reptiles which have wandered near human habitation and may be relocated to nearby natural habitat. Any captive reptile secured by, or forfeited to, Summit Township shall be released to a zoo, humane society or reptile rescue organization, or euthanized at the discretion of Township officials.

#### **EXCEPTIONS:**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to:

- A. A bona fide publicly or privately owned zoological park or educational institution incorporated or authorized to do business in Pennsylvania, such as:
1. A humane society or animal park;
  2. A veterinary hospital, clinic or office;
  3. A bona fide research institution using animals for scientific research; or
  4. A licensed and incorporated circus, sideshow, amusement show or facility.
  5. Any person or entity who has acquired the necessary permit pursuant to 34 Pa.C.S. § 2961.

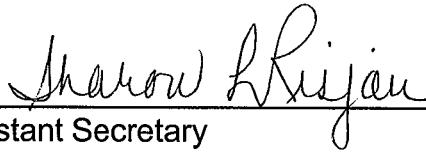
#### **PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS:**

In the event any person is found to be boarding, breeding, housing, keeping or maintaining any animal in violation of this Ordinance, such animal shall be seized by any police officer, fireman, or other person authorized by the Board of Supervisors, and placed immediately in a zoological park or humane society.

ENACTED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2000.


ATTEST:

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP


  
Assistant Secretary

  
Paul L. Dahlkemper, Chairman

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Marlin K. Coon, Supervisor

  
Shirley A. King, Supervisor

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Summit Township Ordinance No. 2000-03, adopted by the Supervisors of Summit Township on September 5, 2000 and advertised in the Erie Times on August 28, 2000.

  
Assistant Secretary

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