

CITY OF MEDICINE LAKE

Ordinance No.

113

Feeding of Waterfowl
and other wild animals

**An Ordinance to regulate the feeding of waterfowl
and other wild animals**

The City of Medicine Lake, Minnesota ordains:

Section 1. Purpose.

This ordinance is adopted to regulate and restrict the feeding of waterfowl and certain wild animals which generate unacceptable and unmanageable nuisances detrimental to the health and safety of citizens, and; which may impair the property, lake and shore in addition to disrupting normal migratory behavior and fostering unintentional socialization towards humans.

Section 2. Definitions.

The following words and terms, wherever they occur in this Chapter, shall be interpreted as herein defined:

1. Waterfowl: As commonly known to include domestic and wild ducks, geese, cormorants, grebes and like avian species.
2. Lake: Medicine Lake, its wetlands, tributaries and harbor limits within the prescribed city limits of the City of Medicine Lake.
3. Wild animal: Wild animals shall include any animal, which is not normally domesticated in this state, including but not limited deer, feral cats, foxes, coyotes, deer, groundhogs, opossums, raccoons, skunks, turkeys, turtles and waterfowl.
4. Intentional Feeding: Such feeding shall include any regular, habitual or occasional placement of foods such as whole corn, cracked corn or bread in a manner accessible to waterfowl for feeding purposes.

Section 3. Provisions.

Within the boundaries of the City of Medicine Lake, no person shall intentionally feed wild animals or waterfowl.

Section 4. Exceptions.

1. Food placed with the sole intent of entrapping sick or injured waterfowl for re- transport and treatment at the University of Minnesota Wildlife Rehabilitation Center or like licensed facility.
2. Veterinarians, City animal control officers or county, state or federal game officials who, in the course of their duties, use food as a means of luring and capturing waterfowl for treatment or relocation.
3. The feeding of songbirds is permitted under the following conditions:
 - Feeding occurs from a bird feeder that is designed to prevent other wildlife, including squirrels or waterfowl, from eating from the bird feeder, and
 - The bird feeder does not become an attractive nuisance to other wildlife or waterfowl, and
 - Songbird feeding does not attract songbirds in such numbers that they become a nuisance or that they damage property, and
 - The storage of songbird feed must be done in a sealed container and in a manner that rodents are not attracted to the feed, and
 - Songbird feeding occurs on private property owned or controlled by the person responsible for the bird feeder.

Section 5. Administration and Enforcement.

This shall be administered and enforced by the duly authorized representatives of the City.

Section 6. Penalties.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Section 7. Separability.

If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge any provisions of this Chapter to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect any other provisions of this Chapter not specifically included in said judgment.

Section 8. Repealer

Ordinance 76 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 9. Effective date.

This ordinance will take effect and be in force after its passage and official publication.

Adopted by the City Council of Medicine Lake this 7th day of October, 2013.

Gary Holter, Mayor

ATTEST: Nancy Pauly, City Clerk