Town of
Lincoln, New Hampshire
Selectmen's Wild Animal Ordinance
Adopted August 4th, 2003
(Amended September 17, 2018)

Lincoln is a resort and recreational community with a large number of transient visitors and guests. A major portion of the town consists of the White Mountain National Forest, home to an ever-increasing number of wild animals. This ordinance is adopted in an effort to assist our residents and guests in peacefully coexisting with the wild animals upon whose habitat we are infringing. Also, this ordinance is intended to enhance freedom and safety of movement in public areas of town.

In recognition that these animals are wild and should be left alone for the welfare and safety of both the animals and our residents and guests, it is hereby enacted by the Board of Selectmen that:

I.   No person shall engage in the practice of baiting wild animals.
- For purposes of this ordinance, baiting shall mean the placing of any food or other substances so as to lure or attract wild animals.
- For purposes of this ordinance, wild animals shall include fur-bearing and game animals as defined by NH RSA 207:1.

II.   No person shall loiter within 100 feet of the solid waste dumpsters nor shall they knowingly approach within 100 feet of any wild animal within the zoning confines of the Town of Lincoln.

III.   All domestic and commercial refuse must be placed in one of the following:
- A building, house or garage that is inaccessible to wildlife
- A wildlife resistant container
- A container that is placed in a wildlife resistant enclosure
- Deposited at an appropriate town disposal site.

IV.   Dumpsters, whether temporarily on a property or there regularly in connection with ongoing use of that property have the potential of creating risks to the public health. Open (without a lid) plastic dumpsters can attract wild animals, including bears or animals that may carry rabies or other viral infectious agents which may represent safety concerns to humans and domestic animals in some situations. Additionally, mosquitoes have enormous breeding capacity during warm weather months in small puddles of water lasting more than four (4) days, and standing water collects in dumpsters that are not properly closed or covered. Mosquitoes breeding in the Northeast United States are known to carry Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV), serious viral diseases that may be transmitted to humans.

V.   Bear proof or other wildlife proof dumpsters – A bear resistant solid waste container shall be constructed of 12, 14, or 16-gauge metal and assembled with ¼

inch rivets or welds and be sufficiently strong to prevent bears from chewing, tearing, breaking, or crushing the container. Lids and doors must recess into the body container, and gaps must be within a ¼ inch of the container body, and they must be lockable with a trigger mechanism, padlock, carabineer clip or other device that prevents opening by bears. Latches, hinges, and handles should be made of stainless or zinc-plated steel, sufficiently strong to prevent prying open or breaking.
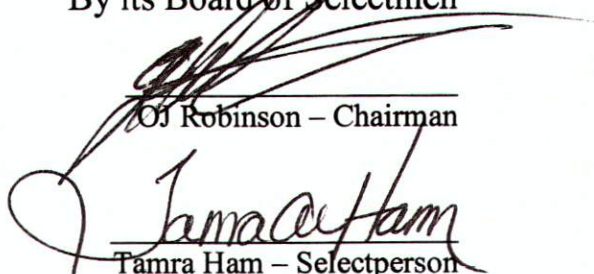
The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all persons except those licensed by the State of New Hampshire, Department of Fish and Game.
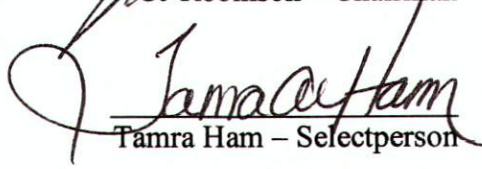
Any person who knowingly violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a violation and subject to a fine of not more than $500.

A person may choose to pay a civil forfeiture of $25 to the Town Clerk within 48 hours of the time notice of violation is provided and shall thereby waive the right to be heard in district court and shall not be prosecuted for that offense. For each subsequent offense by the same person, the amount of civil forfeiture shall be $50. However, civil forfeiture may not be paid after three (3) offenses in one (1) year, but rather their case shall be disposed of by district court proceedings and fines.

This ordinance shall be effective   September 17, 2018

Town of Lincoln
By its Board of Selectmen

OJ Robinson – Chairman

Tamra Ham – Selectperson

Jayne Ludwig – Selectperson