

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD ARTICLE V, TURKEY MANAGEMENT, TO CHAPTER 14, ANIMALS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, TO PROHIBIT THE FEEDING OF TURKEYS, LIST EXCEPTIONS, REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES, AND PRESCRIBE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS.

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS ORDAINS:

Section 1. Article V shall be added to Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rochester Hills, as follows:

ARTICLE V. Turkey Management

Sec. 14-96 - Findings and purpose.

Increasing complaints about and incidences of turkey/human interaction, turkey-related diseases, aggressive behavior and damage to private property, including vehicles and residences, make it necessary and appropriate to manage turkeys in the City of Rochester Hills. The city council finds that the intentional feeding of turkeys contributes to an unnaturally large turkey population, resulting in loss of natural fear of humans, risk of disease, and private property damage. By prohibiting the feeding of turkeys, the city council intends to manage the congregation of turkeys and improve public safety and quality of life in the city by reducing the occurrence of turkey/human interaction, the likelihood of turkey-related disease, and damage to private property.

Sec. 14-97 - Turkey feeding prohibited.

No person may place or permit placement on the ground, or within five (5) feet of the ground, any fruit, berries, grain, vegetables, nuts, or other edible material or bait which may reasonably be expected to attract or feed turkeys unless such materials are covered or protected in a way to prevent turkeys from feeding on them.

Sec. 14-98 - Exceptions.

The foregoing prohibition of turkeys feeding does not apply to:

- (1) Naturally growing materials, fruit trees, other trees and shrubs, and live crops, plants, flowers and vegetation;
- (2) Bird feeders; or
- (3) Veterinarians, animal control officers, federal and state game officials and persons authorized by the city or other public authority to treat, manage, count, capture or remove turkeys.

Section 2. Severability. This ordinance and each article, section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, part, provision, sentence, word and portion thereof are hereby declared to be severable, and if they or any of them are declared to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is hereby provided that the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected.

Section 3. Penalty. Except as otherwise provided therein, all violations of this ordinance shall be municipal civil infractions and upon a determination of responsibility therefore shall be punishable by a civil fine up to \$500.

Section 4. Repeal, Effective Date, Adoption.

(1) Repeal. All regulatory provisions contained in other City ordinances, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed.

(2) Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective on _____, 2026 following its publication in the *Oakland Press* on _____, 2026.

(3) Adoption. This ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Rochester Hills at a meeting thereof held on _____, 2026.

Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor
City of Rochester Hills

CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS AT A MEETING THEREOF ON _____, 2026.

Leanne Scott, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills