

ORDINANCE 2017:19
BOROUGH OF NEW MILFORD
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER III OF THE REVISED GENERAL
ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF NEW MILFORD TO ADD SECTION 3-13
ENTITLED INTENTIONAL RELEASE OF BALLOONS**

WHEREAS, New Milford Environmental Commission have requested the Mayor and Council of the Borough of New Milford adopt an ordinance to help protect wildlife from ingesting balloons and/or entangling in the strings, both of which can lead to injury or death.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of New Milford, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that Chapter III of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of New Milford be amended to add Section 3-13 entitled Intentional Release of Balloons:

3-13 Intentional Release of Balloons

3-13.1 Purpose and Intent

This article is adopted in order to protect the environment, particularly the wildlife, and health, safety and well-being of persons and property by prohibiting the intentional release of helium balloons into the atmosphere, including latex and mylar, as it has been determined that the release of balloons inflated with lighter-than-air gases pose a danger and nuisance to the environment, particularly to wildlife and marine animals so as to constitute a public nuisance and may pose a threat to the safety of its inhabitants and their property.

3-13.2 Prohibited Releases

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to intentionally release, organize the release, or intentionally cause to be released balloons inflated with a gas that is lighter than air within the Borough of New Milford limits, except for:

- a) Balloon released on behalf of a governmental agency or pursuant to a governmental contract for scientific or meteorological purposes.
- b) Hot air balloons that are recovered after launching.
- c) Balloons released indoors.

3-13.3 Violations and Penalties

Any person found in violation is guilty of a non-criminal infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed the sum of \$500.00.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication as provided by law.