

ORDINANCE NO. 5-95  
CITY OF CENTERVILLE, OHIO

SPONSORED BY COUNCILMEMBER J. V. Stone ON THE 20th  
DAY OF March, 1995.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 618 OF THE CENTERVILLE  
MUNICIPAL CODE BY REGULATING THE KEEPING OF WILD ANIMALS.

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Centerville finds that the keeping of wild animals is a serious public safety concern; and

WHEREAS, the keeping of wild animals, particularly in residential areas, presents a clear and present danger to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City of Centerville;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MUNICIPALITY OF CENTERVILLE HEREBY  
ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 618 of the Centerville Municipal Code is hereby amended by the addition of the following Section 618.15:

618.15 THE KEEPING AND MAINTAINING OF WILD ANIMALS.

A. As used in this section "wild animal" means any living wild or potentially dangerous mammal, reptile, fowl or other vertebrate species which is not naturally tame or gentle, but is of a wild nature or disposition and not customarily domesticated, and which because of its characteristics may constitute a danger to human life or property if it escaped from secure quarters. A wild animal shall include, but not be limited to:

1. All Poisonous Snakes
2. Bears (Ursidae)
3. Birds of Prey, Eagles, Falcons, Hawks, Owls (Falconiformes)
4. Cheetahs (Acinonyx Jubatus)
5. Coyotes and Coyote-Dog Hybrids (Canids)
6. Elephants (Elephas and Loxodons)
7. Hyenas (Hyaenides)
8. Jaguars (Panthera Onca)
9. Leopards (Panthera Pardus)
10. Lions (Panthera Leo)
11. Lynxes (Lynx)

12. Pumas (also know as Cougars, Mountain Lions and Panthers (Felis Concolor)
13. Primates (non-human), Apes, Monkeys, Baboons, Chimpanzees, Gibbons, Gorillas, Orangutans, Siamangs
14. Tigers (Panthera Tigris)
15. Wolves and Wolf Dog Hybrids (Canis Lupus)
16. Wild Cats, Ocelot, Margay, Servral, Leopard Cat.

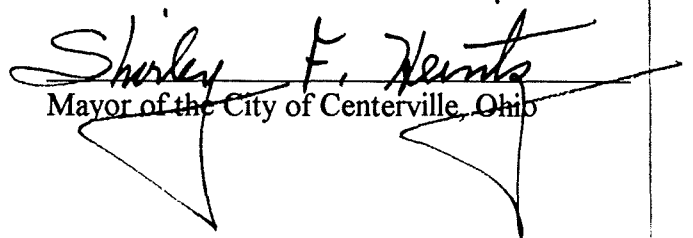
B. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to keep or maintain a wild animal, either inside or outside a structure, within the City of Centerville, with the following exceptions:

1. Temporary events such as circus, sporting event or zoo exhibition where the animals or mascots are handled by trained professional caretakers.
2. Retail pet stores, with all proper licenses, located in a commercial zoning district.
3. Any fish or similar aquatic vertebrates bred to remain in a confined body of water.
4. Any domestic, non-farm animal including, but not limited to, dogs, cats, or ferrets.


C. Any person violating this section shall be deemed guilty of a minor misdemeanor for the first offense. For the second and subsequent violations of this section, the violator shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. In addition, the court may order the wild animal transferred to an appropriate zoological or similar facility. If this is not practical, as an alternative, the court may order the wild animal humanely destroyed by a qualified veterinarian.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall become effective from and after the earliest date allow by law.

PASSES this 20th day of March, 1995.

  
Mayor of the City of Centerville, Ohio

ATTEST:

  
Clerk of Council of the City of Centerville, Ohio

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, Clerk of the Council of the City of Centerville, Ohio, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Ordinance Number 5-95, passed by the Council of the City of Centerville, Ohio, on the 20th day of March, 1995.

Maureen McLaughlin  
Clerk of Council

Approved as to form, consistency  
with the Charter and Constitutional Provisions.

Department of Law  
Robert N. Farquhar  
Municipal Attorney