

**TOWNSHIP OF LEWIS
COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 2019- 9

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LEWIS, COUNTY OF
NORTHUMBERLAND, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO AMEND
ORDINANCE NO. 2015-10 (ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE KEEPING
AND MAINTENANCE OF HORSES TO PROMOTE THE MAINTENANCE OF
PEACE, HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE TOWNSHIP AND ITS RESIDENTS)**

WHEREAS, the Township of Lewis (the “Township”) adopted Ordinance 2015-10 on December 2, 2015, which regulated the keeping and maintenance of horses within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the Township now desires to amend Ordinance 2015-10, as enacted, in order to provide for penalties associated with violating the restrictions provided therein.

NOW THEREFORE, this 6th day of November, 2019, it is hereby Enacted and Ordained by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lewis, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

Section 1.

Ordinance No. 2015-10, as adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Lewis Township on December 2, 2015, is hereby amended and restated in its entirety to read as follows:

1. The keeping and maintenance of horses shall be permitted on lots consisting of at least two and one-half (2½) acres where such use may otherwise be permitted by the Lewis Township Zoning Ordinance.
2. No horses shall be kept or maintained on any lots consisting of less than two and one-half (2½) acres.
3. Up to two (2) horses may be kept and maintained on lots consisting of at least two and one-half (2½) acres.
4. One (1) additional horse may be kept and maintained for each additional full acre of land on a lot. For example, up to four (4) horses may be kept and maintained on a lot consisting of at least four and one-half (4½) acres but less than five and one-half (5½) acres.

5. Under no circumstance may more than one (1) additional horse be kept and maintained on a lot in the Township per one (1) additional acre of land over two and one-half (2½) acres of land.
6. All horses shall be kept and maintained within a fully-enclosed, fenced area and such fencing must comply with the Township's building and zoning requirements.
7. The fencing must be of sufficient construction and strength to keep the horses within the fully-enclosed area, and all buildings or structures used, or intended for use, as shelters for the horses shall be within the fully-enclosed areas, or shall constitute a portion of the enclosure.
8. The fully-enclosed, fenced area and any and all buildings or structures used, or intended to be used, for the keeping or maintenance of any horse shall be located no closer than two hundred (200) feet from any building or structure located on a neighboring property and from any public roadway.
9. The owner of any lot upon which one (1) or more horses are kept or maintained shall take all reasonable steps to prevent any manure or other waste materials from the horses from leaving the lot, and shall take all reasonable steps to minimize the impact of dust, flies, and other negative impacts on adjoining properties.
10. No horse may be kept or maintained on any lot in the Township in such a manner so as to constitute a nuisance.
11. The Township's Zoning Officer shall inspect each alleged or apparent violation. Whenever the Zoning Officer determines that a violation of this Ordinance exists, the Zoning Officer shall issue a Notice of Violation, in writing, which specifies all circumstances found to be in violation. Such notice shall be directed to each owner of, or a party in interest in whose name the property appears on the last local tax assessment records. All notices shall be served upon the person to whom they are directed personally, or in lieu of personal service, may be mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to such owner or party in interest at the address shown on the tax records. All violations shall be corrected within a period of fifteen (15) days after the violation notice is issued. Should a violation not be corrected within this time period, the Township may commence a civil action against the individual to achieve compliance with this Ordinance, with the Township able to cover its costs, expenses and attorneys' fees associated with such action. Additionally, a violation of this ordinance shall constitute a misdemeanor, with any person who violates this Ordinance or fails to comply with any of its requirements, upon conviction thereof, being fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or imprisoned for not more than ninety (90) days, or both, and in addition, shall pay all costs, expenses, and Township attorneys' fees involved in the case. Each day such violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

Section 2.

All other sections in provisions of existing codes of Ordinances are reaffirmed.

Section 3.

This Ordinance should be effective immediately upon its enactment.

RESOLVED, ENACTED AND ADOPTED at a duly advertised public meeting of the Board of Supervisors held on the 6th day of November, 2019.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF LEWIS

By: Lucinda R Bomber
Lucinda Bomberger, Secretary

By: Willard Murray
Willard Murray, Chairman

By: Duane M. Blakeney
Duane M. Blakeney, Vice Chairman

By: Ricky Dyer
Ricky Dyer, Supervisor

