

# Proclamation

## **A Proclamation Opposing The Indiscriminate Killing Of Wildlife In The Form Of Wildlife Killing Contests.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Monessen strives to meet the highest standards of humane animal care, and to promote responsible pet ownership through public education and outreach, and;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Monessen recognizes and supports hunting and fishing events for properly licensed hunters and anglers, and;

**WHEREAS**, wildlife killing contests that are conducted for profit, entertainment, prizes, and for the “fun of killing” glorify killing for its own sake, and are unacceptable, and;

**WHEREAS**, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has more wildlife killing contests than any other state in the country, and;

**WHEREAS**, predators, including coyotes, are an integral part of the ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as rabbits, mice, and other rodents, and;

**WHEREAS**, residents and visitors use the extensive public lands in Monessen for hiking, exercise, dog walking, bird watching, sports, and other outdoor activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy ecosystem, and the activities of killing contests may pose a threat to their safety and well-being, and;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Monessen has established by ordinance the certain protections for wildlife, within the City. Ordinance states, §275-10 *Preservation of property, natural resources and wildlife.* (1) “No person shall kill, injure, trap, hunt, pursue, torture or in any manner deliberately disturb or cause to be disturbed any wild or domesticated bird or animal within any park.”.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Matthew T. Shorraw, Mayor of the City of Monessen, do hereby proclaim full support in regards to the joint efforts of Humane Action Pittsburgh and Animal Wellness Action to end the practice of wildlife killing contests in the state of Pennsylvania.



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Matthew Shorraw  
Mayor, City of Monessen