

Definitions

Beekeeping

Means a private or commercial activity where beehives are kept on a lot or parcel.

Fly Away Barrier

Means a fence or hedge built or grown in front of and perpendicular to a bee hive or hives. Flyaway barriers “train” bees to fly at higher elevations. This typically serves to make the bees less disturbing to neighbors because they are flying higher than the neighbors typically stands – rather than right at them. Thus, flyaway barriers help to reduce conflicts and complaints from neighbors.

Fowl

Means a gallinaceous bird kept chiefly for its eggs and flesh; a domestic cock and hen. Any other domesticated bird kept for its eggs or flesh, e.g. the turkey, duck, goose and guinea fowl. The flesh of birds, especially of the domestic cock or hen, as food.

Livestock

Means large horses, bovine animals, sheep, goats, donkeys and mules over 500 pounds. Swine over 150 pounds are considered large livestock. Also see nuisance and animal ordinances.

Nuc or Nucleus

Means a queen mating box or receptacle for expansion or split of a new hive or colony.

Poultry

Means domesticated fowl collectively, especially those valued for their meat and eggs, as chickens, turkeys, duck, geese and guinea fowl.

Small Farm Animals

Means any animal, other than large livestock, or animals considered to be predatory or wild, which are kept outside a dwelling unit all or part of the time and are kept as household pets. An example of a small farm animal is sheep, goats, miniature horses, llamas, alpaca, and other livestock generally weighing under 500 pounds. Any livestock over 500 pounds shall be considered large livestock.

17.28.060

Large livestock

No livestock over 500 pounds shall be kept on any property less than one acre in area as long as their keeping does not constitute a nuisance or hazard to the health, peace, safety and welfare of the community in general. For each additional animal unit kept there must be one-half additional acre. (Ord. 232 §7.6, 1992)

Chickens

In residential areas, the keeping of chickens is subject to the following conditions:

- a. A maximum of one (1) chicken may be raised or kept per 1,000 gross square feet of lot area.
- b. Structures, pens, yards and grazing areas shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
- c. Pens, coops, hutches or similar containment structures shall be kept a minimum of 20 feet from the front property line and five feet from side and rear property lines. Pens, coops, hutches or similar containment structures shall be kept a minimum of 25 feet from dwellings on neighboring properties.
- d. All chickens and/or fowl shall be contained within the subject property.

Small Farm Animals

In residential areas, the keeping of Small Farm Animals are subject to the following conditions:

- a. Up to three (3) small animals are allowed (rabbits, goats, sheep, pot belly pigs, etc.) accessory to each dwelling unit. On lots of 20,000 square feet or more, up to four (4) small animals are allowed. One additional small animal is permitted for each 5,000 sf; of lot area in excess of 20,000 square feet.
- b. In no case is more than one (1) miniature potbelly pig (Vietnamese, Chinese or Asian types) allowed. Miniature potbelly pigs may be no greater than 22 inches in height at the shoulder or more than 150 pounds; swine over 150 pounds are considered large farm animals.
- c. Goats may be kept if they are Miniature, Dwarf or Pygmy. Goats must be dehorned and male goats must be neutered.
- d. All poultry, excluding chickens are considered small farm animals.
- e. The calculation of the number of small farm animals, including chickens, shall be cumulative and the aggregate of total number of small domestic animals shall not exceed the number permitted in this code. For example, a 10,000-square foot lot may have 10 chickens (10,000 square feet divided by 1,000 square foot per small animal equals 10 animals) OR three miniature goats, but not both.

E. Beekeeping

In residential areas, the keeping of bees are subject to the following conditions:

- a. Beekeeping is allowed as a primary or accessory use on any lot or parcel.
- b. There is a limit to the number of beehives, colonies or nucs allowed per lot. Two hives are permitted for lots of 10,000 square feet or less. For each additional 10,000 square feet of property; two more hives are permitted.
- c. Beehives shall be setback a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from any public right-of-way, private road or improved shared access easement.
- d. Beehives shall be setback a minimum of five (5) feet from any side or rear property lines and minimum of fifty (50) feet from any adjacent residence.
- e. A fresh water supply for the bees must be maintained on the property at all times and located within close proximity to the hive(s).
- f. Aggressive bee colonies (bee stinging without provocation, excessive swarming behavior, etc.) must be re-queened by the beekeeper within 14 days of documented aggressive behavior)