

18.43.040 Animals

The keeping of animals is consistent with the rural lifestyle emphasized in low-density residential development districts and can enhance the rural charm of these districts and areas. It is also appropriate that hen chickens and bees be allowed within a more urban environment to the extent that they do not constitute a nuisance to neighboring properties. To permit the keeping of animals and ensure that their presence does not create an undue burden on neighboring residents, the following standards will apply, unless otherwise provided in the applicable zoning district.

A. The keeping of cats, dogs, pot-bellied pigs, and other household pets for noncommercial purposes is permitted in accordance with Title 7 of the Municipal Code.

B. For noncommercial purposes, the keeping of the following animals shall be permitted in districts zoned "RL, " "RE, " and "RS." No slaughtering or processing shall be permitted in these zoning districts. The minimum site area of the parcel shall be as specified, and the number of animals allowed is subject to the requirements of subsections (D) and (E) below.

- 1. Large animals 40,000 square feet
- 2. Small animals 20,000 square feet
- 3. Hen chickens No site area limitations

C. All animal enclosures, including corrals, pens, feed areas, paddocks, uncovered stables and similar enclosures are subject to the following setback requirements: (1) enclosures shall not be within fifteen feet (15') of a side or rear property line (except when adjacent to an alley) or within fifty feet (50') of a front property line, and (2) enclosures shall not be located closer to any residence on an adjoining property than the distance specified below:

1. Large animals:

- a. Horses, mules, donkeys, jennies, etc. 75 feet
- b. Cattle 75 feet
- c. Pigs, hogs* 500 feet
- d. Goats 100 feet
- e. Sheep 75 feet
- f. Large fowl 75 feet

* Maximum number allowed is 3 sows and 1 boar (Pigs/hogs do not include pot-bellied pigs as defined in Redding Municipal Code Section 7.040.010.)

2. Small animals:

- a. Poultry 40 feet
- b. Rabbits 40 feet

Exception – Hen Chickens. The side and rear property line setbacks may be reduced to five feet (5'), and the setbacks from a residence on an adjoining property may be reduced to thirty feet (30') for the keeping of hen chickens if the resident(s)/property owner(s) on abutting property or properties provide written permission to the City, in a form acceptable to the Development Services Director, that reduced setbacks are acceptable to them. The Zoning Clearance provisions of Section 18.12.030A.2. shall be utilized for this purpose. Permission granted in accordance with this Section may be revoked within sixty (60) days by the person or persons residing on or owning the abutting property by notifying the Development Services Department in writing, as well as those persons maintaining hen chickens within setback areas. Upon revocation, the setbacks established by this section shall be adhered to.

D. Animals are described in terms of "units" in this section to further define the relationships among animals of various sizes and to determine the number of animals allowed on a given parcel. Animal types are defined in Chapter 18.61.

1. Large animals: each large animal is equal to one animal unit.

2. Small animals:

a. Ten (10) poultry equal 1 animal unit.

b. Ten (10) rabbits equal 1 animal unit.

c. Two (2) turkeys or other similar size fowl equal 1 animal unit.

d. The keeping of specific animals is subject to the following special standards:

(1) Poultry: all poultry shall be contained in coops or pens and not be allowed to run free on any site. Rooster chickens over three months in age are prohibited. The maximum number of poultry allowed is 20 (2 animal units).

(2) Rabbits: all rabbits shall be contained in coops or pens and not be allowed to run free on any site. The maximum number of rabbits allowed is twenty (20) (2 animal units). These restrictions do not apply to rabbits kept solely as pets.

(3) Turkeys: all turkeys shall be contained in coops or pens and not be allowed to run free. The maximum number of turkeys allowed is four (4) (2 animal units).

E. The maximum animal density on any site is determined by the lot size.

1. **Lots up to 19,999 square feet in area:** up to six (6) hen chickens over three (3) months old provided that a residence is located on the lot and the keeping of such animals complies with this Section and Section 7.04.120.

2. **Lots 20,000–39,999 square feet in area:** small animals only at a density equal to one animal unit.

3. ***Lots 40,000 square feet in area:*** large and small animals at a density equal to two (2) animal units. One additional animal unit is allowed for each additional 20,000 square feet of lot size.
 4. ***Fractional*** animal units can be combined to equal a full unit. For example, five (5) poultry and five (5) rabbits equal 1 animal unit.
- F. **Provision of Needs.** Every person who keeps an animal that normally resides outside or that is kept outside unsupervised for extended periods of time, shall ensure that the animal is provided with an enclosure that meets the following criteria:
1. Has a sufficient area for mobility and exercise as appropriate.
 2. Contains shelter that will provide protection from heat, cold, and wet that is appropriate to the animal's weight and type of coat. Such shelter must provide sufficient space to allow the animal the ability to turn around freely and lie in a normal position.
 3. Must be in an area providing sufficient shade to protect the animal from the direct rays of the sun at all times.
 4. Must regularly clean and sanitize pens and run areas and remove and properly dispose of excreta daily.
- G. **Unsanitary Conditions Prohibited.** No person shall keep an animal in an unsanitary condition within the city. Conditions shall be considered unsanitary where the keeping of the animal results in an accumulation of fecal matter, an odor, insect infestation, or rodent attractants which endanger the health of the animal or any person or which disturb or are likely to disturb the enjoyment, comfort, or convenience of any person in or about any dwelling, office, hospital, or commercial establishment.
- H. **Animals Not Mentioned.** Questions regarding the classification of animals not specifically mentioned are to be referred to the Director for a determination as to their appropriate category (household pet, small animal, large animal, or exotic or wild animal).
- I. **Exotic Animals.** The keeping of exotic or wild animals may be permitted subject to issuance of a site development permit and any required Fish and Wildlife permits.