

Chapter 6.12 Keeping of Chickens, Ducks, and Fowl

Planning Commission
Meeting

2/8/2024



6.12.010 - Purpose.

Residents of the city living may be allowed to keep chickens, ducks, geese, and fowl, subject to the requirements of this chapter.

6.12.015 – Definitions

Residential Poultry – Small animals kept in a residential setting, limited to chickens, ducks, quail, guinea fowl, and partridges.

6.12.030 - Location requirements.

- A. Residential poultry are only allowed on property that is occupied by a detached single-family dwelling.
- B. Residential poultry are only allowed on property that is the principal residence of the owner of the chickens.
- C. Residential poultry and related enclosures are not to be located in any area between the primary dwelling and the front property line.
- D. Enclosures must be at least ten (10) feet from the property line and at least twenty-five (25) feet from any dwelling unit on an abutting property.

6.12.040 - Ongoing conditions of license.

A. Residential poultry enclosures.

1. 1. Residential poultry must be kept within a secure enclosure at night. During daylight hours, chickens must be kept within a secure enclosure unless under direct supervision within a fenced yard.
2. 2. Allowing residential poultry to enter adjoining properties is prohibited.
3. 3. Enclosures must be kept clean, dry, in good repair and not cause an odor that is unreasonably offensive or annoying to residents within the immediate vicinity.
4. 4. Enclosures must be designed to prevent the entry of rodents and predators and must effectively contain and protect the chickens.
5. 5. Enclosures must be designed so that they are not a breeding place or likely breeding place for rodents, flies or other pests.

B. Residential poultry must be kept for personal, non-commercial use only. No person licensed under this chapter may engage in chicken breeding or fertilizer production for commercial purposes. The roadside sale of eggs is allowed.

Other Procedural Components

6.12.050 - Procedure for obtaining a Residential Poultry Permit

6.12.060 - Penalties.

Topics discussed at the October Planning Commission meeting

- Concern about wild animals
- Criteria for coops
- Preference for the Sherwood Ordinance, except for the 5-chicken limit on large pieces of property
- Support for no roosters
- Concern about rodents