

Residential Farms, the keeping of livestock and fowl.

1. Minimum acreage requirements:

Large animals (including but not limited to horses, cows, donkeys, alpacas)... 1 animal/acre

Medium size animals (including but not limited to pigs, sheep, goat)... 5 animals/acre

Small animals (including but not limited to those that are generally housed in hutches, such as rabbits), 10 animals/acre. Excluded are any sort of poultry or fowl (with the encouragement of free ranging).

Land required shall be characterized by areas of open space and vegetation suitable for use by the animals. Owners are responsible for the containment of the animals.

2. Housing requirements:

In all instances, all animals need to be adequately fed and housed. They shall be fenced so as not to create a nuisance, and maintained in a sanitary and safe manner so as not to create a health or safety risk to the farmers, their neighbors, or the animals themselves.

For livestock, buildings need a minimum setback of 100 feet from property lines. [The current regulation is “50 feet from property lines and 120 feet from all residences on adjacent properties.” I would recommend changing the requirement so that neighbors are not infringed upon in any way whatsoever.] For fowl, hen houses or coops need a minimum setback of 20 feet from property lines.

Manure and other wastes shall be managed, stored or disposed of in a manner that does not create a risk to public health or to the quality of any wetland, water body or groundwater.