

Sec. 18.26.090. Domestic small livestock and fowl-rabbits, chinchillas and ducks.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, harbor, keep, maintain or care for rabbits, chinchillas and any female breed of duck unless such person first obtains a small livestock and fowl license granted by the community and economic development department upon its determination that the proposed licensed premise is in compliance with all requirements of this section. A non-refundable application fee, the amount of which shall be established by resolution of city council, must be submitted with the license application.

(b) Rabbits, chinchillas, and any female breed of duck are allowed as an accessory use only upon lots or parcels developed for residential use or private or public school use, excluding mobile homes and mobile home parks.

(c) The ownership, possession, harboring, keeping, and care of rabbits, chinchillas, or any female breed of duck is subject to the following requirements:

(1) Drakes and any other small livestock, fowl or poultry, including but not limited to, roosters, hens, turkeys, pheasants, geese, peacocks, and peafowl are prohibited under the license granted pursuant to this section.

(2) No more than the following number of animals may be allowed on any lot or parcel:

(a) Six (6) female ducks;

(b) Three (3) rabbits;

(c) Three (3) chinchillas.

(3) The total number of animals for any lot or parcel shall not exceed twelve.

(4) Rabbits, chinchillas, and female ducks may be kept in the rear yard of a lot or parcel and within a designated hutch or other shelter, which shall include a run, meeting the following requirements:

(a) The hutch or shelter shall be fully enclosed, having floors, walls and a roof sufficient to protect the animals from predators, inclement weather and extreme temperatures;

(b) For ducks, the shelter shall provide a minimum four (4) square feet of living space per duck;

(c) For rabbits, the hutch shall provide a minimum twelve square feet of living space per rabbit;

(d) For chinchillas, the shelter shall contain multiple levels and provide a minimum two (2) square feet of living space per chinchilla;

(e) For rabbits, a run shall provide a minimum thirty-two square feet of exercise space per rabbit;

(f) The hutch or shelter and run, taken together, shall not exceed a maximum gross floor area of 120 square feet;

(g) The hutch, shelter or run shall have a minimum ten feet setback from any side or rear property line;

(h) No hutch, shelter or run shall be located between the rear of a principal structure and the front yard lot line;

(i) Any run shall be fully enclosed, adequately fenced and protected from predators, and shall have direct access to the rabbit hutch or duck shelter;

(j) The hutch, or shelter shall not exceed six feet in height as measured from the ground.

(5) All animals must be securely kept within their designated shelters in the rear yard from dusk until dawn.

(6) During daylight hours or from dawn to dusk, ducks and rabbits may be allowed to roam within a designated run.

(7) A fresh water supply for animals shall be provided and maintained in the rear yard of the property at all times, in a location readily accessible to all animals.

(8) Hutches, shelters and runs shall be kept in good working condition and regularly maintained in a clean, sanitary condition so as to control dust, odor, and waste and to minimize the presence of flies and other insects and potential for disease.

(9) Animal excrement and other waste must be stored in a re-sealable, airtight, vermin-proof and predator-proof container, and shall be properly disposed of to control odor and minimize potential for disease.

(10) Feed shall be enclosed in a re-sealable, airtight, vermin-proof and predator-proof container.

(11) The on-site slaughtering of rabbits, chinchillas and ducks is permitted indoors only; however, the slaughtering shall be limited only to the property subject to the license and to those rabbits, chinchillas and ducks permitted by the license. In addition, the slaughtering location must be screened so as to not be visible from any adjoining properties. Any and all slaughtered animal remains or waste shall be disposed of within twenty-four hours of generation and in accordance with section 4.82.015 of the Code.

(d) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, harbor, possess, maintain, or care for rabbits, chinchillas, and female ducks in violation of the requirements of this section and any such violation is hereby deemed a nuisance that may be abated pursuant to the provisions specified in chapter 5.01 of this Code.

(e) *Nonconforming use* A dwelling unit permitted to keep rabbits, chinchillas or ducks as a special use in any residential zone district in accordance with Chapter 18.30 prior to March 6, 2019, shall be considered a permitted, non-conforming use, if in compliance with all other provisions of this code pertaining to such use. Such non-conforming use must come into compliance with all requirements of this section by April 1, 2022.