

ANIMAL KHHPING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Animal Keeping?

Animal keeping is the practice of owning certain, nondomesticated animals and honey bees at residential properties for personal use. It allows homeowners and communities to produce healthy, nutritional food and promotes environmental sustainability.

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What animals are proposed in the animal keeping ordinance?

Only chickens, ducks, and honey bees. Roosters are not allowed in the ordinance.

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How many chickens and ducks would be allowed on residential properties based on spacing?

A combination of 8 chickens and ducks and up to 4 honey bee hives. Up to 12 chickens would be allowed on urban farms and gardens. An urban garden is a lot under one acre and an urban farm is a lot over one acre.



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Are chickens and ducks required to be in enclosures?

Yes, chickens and ducks must be kept in an enclosure in the rear of the owner's property no less than 30 feet from the neighboring homes and 5 feet from the neighboring property line.

What are the distance requirements for honey bee hives?

If a barrier is present between neighboring properties, hives must be no less than 5 feet from the property line. If a barrier is not present, hives must be 25 feet from the neighbor's property line. Barriers include fences, trees, and walls.

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Will a license be required to participate in Animal Keeping?

Yes, applicants will need to apply for a license through Detroit Animal Care and Control for chickens and ducks. The proposed annual licensing fee is \$50. A license is not required to keep honey bee hives.