

Issue/Commissioner	Discussion Notes	Issue Status
<p>1. Should Redmond revise code provisions regarding small animal husbandry, specifically provisions regarding chickens, thereby increasing permissiveness in single-family residential zones? <i>(Commission)</i></p> <p>Policy/Code as initially proposed: <i>(b) Limitations.</i> <i>(1) Female chickens, pullets or hens, hereby referred to as chickens, are allowed in Single-Family zones, Urban Recreation zones, and on publicly-owned park properties.</i> <i>(2) In Single-Family zones, no more than one chicken per 1,000 square feet of the average minimum</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: Staff recommends the code provisions for animal husbandry as described in the September 9, 2011 Technical Committee Report.</p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: As a preliminary assessment of the Commission’s support for considering the amendments, Commissioners Hinman and Gregory asked the Commission whether they wanted to pursue deliberation of staff’s recommended amendments to small animal husbandry. All Commissioners were in favor of discussing the amendment package.</p> <p>Commissioner Miller requested maintaining this item open for continued consideration.</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

<p><i>lot size per the respective underlying zone, or a maximum of eight chickens may be kept.</i></p> <p><i>(3) In Urban Recreation zones and on publicly-owned park properties, there shall be no limit on the number of chickens kept provided that shelter and run requirements are met.</i></p>		
<p>2. What number of chickens is necessary, such as the number to sustain a family? <i>(Miller)</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: Seattle Tilth notes that the number of eggs a chicken lays depends on 1) the time of year, 2) the breed of the hen, 3) the diet of the hen, 4) the age of the hen {young/old}, and 5) other husbandry practices.</p> <p>In general, a domesticated chicken may lay from 180 to 320 eggs per year, 3 to 6 eggs per week, during their productive years (roughly, up to 5 years, starting sometime after 20 to 26 weeks of age), based on various conditions. A flock of eight chickens have the ability to produce zero to eight (or more) eggs on any given day. On average, the flock may produce approximately four eggs per day during summer months and approximately two eggs per day during winter months. However, not all chickens lay at the same rate or consistency. To see a variety of laying habits, refer to http://www.mypetchicken.com/chicken-breeds/breed-list.aspx.</p> <p>Experts also recommend keeping no fewer than three chickens due to the social nature of the species.</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

	<p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioner Miller asked for additional information regarding the number of chickens that could sustain a family.</p>	
<p>3. What prevents the emergence of cottage industry involving poultry or eggs in residential neighborhoods? Provide additional information regarding the Roadside Produce Stand code. (Miller)</p> <p>Roadside Produce Stand (Redmond Zoning Code): <i>A small, sometimes temporary or seasonal establishment from which a farmer, gardener, or other person sells, delivers, or peddles any fruits, vegetables, flowers, berries, butter, eggs, fish, milk,</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: A roadside produce stand is an allowed use in the Urban Recreation (UR) and residential zones. Roadside produce stands that meet the provisions of the RMC and RZC are not regulated as general business and are not required to have a Redmond peddler’s license. However, WSDA laws control offsite sales of eggs and poultry meat: http://agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/directmarketinghandbook.aspx.</p> <p>Operation of roadside produce stands may be self-limiting. Redmond’s sign code regulates the design, placement, and duration of signs that would be associated with roadside produce stands. Egg sales and customer interest may also affect interest in operating a stand. For example, customers may not wish to purchase from a home-based production and prefer refrigeration facilities of larger commercial establishments. In addition, egg production varies and may not support the formal creation and investment in facilities for a stand.</p> <p>Based on additional review of the WSDA laws and licensure, staff recommends the following additional amendments to the slaughter provision as well as moving this provision into the “Chicken” section of the RMC chapter.</p> <p><i>(f) Slaughter. Intended only for personal consumption, no more than one animal chicken may be slaughtered on any property located in a single family residential zone within any twenty-four hour period. Adequate measures such as arrangement with a mobile slaughter unit or veterinary service shall be taken to slaughter any more than one animal chicken within a twenty-four-hour period outside of any City of Redmond Residential zone.</i></p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

<p><i>poultry, meat or other farm produce or edibles produced or manufactured by such person in the State of Washington.</i></p> <p>(Redmond Municipal Code) Chapter 5.04 GENERAL BUSINESS REGULATIONS <i>15.04.130 Exemptions. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:</i> ... <i>(2) Any farmer, gardener, or other person who sells, delivers or peddles any fruits, vegetables, berries, butter, eggs, fish, milk, poultry, meat or any farm produce or edibles raised, caught, produced or manufactured by such person in the state;</i></p>	<p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioner Miller requested staff's research concerning preventative measures for small animal husbandry activities on residential lots converting to cottage-style industry.</p>	
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<p>Slaughter (Redmond Municipal Code, Chapter 7.04 Animal Control):</p> <p><i>(a) Animal Slaughter in Single-Family Residential Zones.</i></p> <p><i>Animals, in any amount greater than one within a twenty-four-hour period, shall not be slaughtered in Single-Family Residential Zones.</i></p> <p><i>Adequate measures such as arrangement with mobile slaughter unit or veterinary service shall be taken to slaughter any more than one animal within a</i></p>		
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<p><i>twenty-four-hour period outside of any City of Redmond Residential zone.</i></p>		
<p>4. What structure or management practices would be necessary to prevent attracting rodents? (Miller)</p> <p>Code as initially proposed: 7.04.151 Animal Structures and Runs. <i>(a) Suitable Animal Structures and Runs. A suitable structure and associated run shall provide accommodation, environment, and security of animals at a standard that ensures their safety and wellbeing.</i> <i>(b) Food Storage. Animal food shall be secured in a</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: Organizations including Washington State Extension recommend a variety of techniques for addressing rodents. For example, the Snohomish County office of WSU Extension recommends an ordered four-step approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Elimination of shelter or harborage (b) Rodent-proofing structures (c) Elimination of food and water (d) Killing rodents <p>The Regional Animal Services of King County provides a barn cat program: <i>“RASKC places barn cats in small colonies, usually in groups of four. All of the cats have been spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear-tipped for identification, and have been tested for feline diseases. Best of all, there is no charge for this service, and volunteers are available to deliver and assist with placing your barn cats.”</i></p> <p>Other online sources recommend “specific feeding systems such as a feeder with special dividers in the middle of the feeding tray to discourage chickens from 'swiping' the feed onto the ground” or grit hoppers. EzineArticle.com reports “Chickens naturally try to sort their grain mix.” The feeder forces the chicken to peck at the feed to eat it, rather than scratching through the grain on the ground, thus spreading unconsumed feed. Some owners report having a feeder helps prevents feed wastage which is a key factor in keeping away the rats and mice. <i>Excerpts from http://EzineArticles.com/4396424</i></p> <p>Food and water stored within a coop that is closed during the evening may also assist in reducing rodents’ access to the food/water. Experts note that rodents are habitual and seek convenience; they will go elsewhere for food and water if access to a source is challenging and/or inconsistent.</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

<p><i>manner not to attract rodents.</i></p>	<p>Staff recommends the code regarding structures, runs, and food storage as initially proposed. In addition, based on the outcome of this amendment package, staff recommends working in collaboration with the Redmond chicken community to provide education and guidance to other community members.</p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioner Miller asked for specific description of rodent prevention in relation to food storage and animal feeding techniques.</p>	
<p>5. How would the owner prevent predators? <i>(Chandorkar)</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: The Seattle Tilth recommends fences, adequate coops, and educating owners to help prevent predators. Note additional discussion regarding fences in item 7 of this issue matrix.</p> <p>Predators are also noted to be habitual, convenience hunters. Easy access to prey or carrion will encourage their presence.</p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioner Chandorkar requested specific design parameters or onsite management techniques through which property owners would prevent predation by other animals such as coyotes.</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>
<p>6. What programs or provisions are in place or proposed to address Avian Influenza? <i>(Chandorkar)</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: Avian health is monitored by the WSDA and includes the following recommendation: “Immediately report dead or sick birds to the WA State Department of Agriculture’s (WSDA) Avian Health Hotline at Program at 1-800-606-3056 or the USDA Veterinary Services Office at 1-866-536-7593 or your local veterinarian.”</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

As well, the WSDA performs ongoing surveillance of Avian Influenza (AI) conditions. Ongoing AI surveillance occurs at:

- Livestock markets/auctions
- County and community fairs and bird shows
- Farmer's markets/small producers
- Backyard flocks (*Refer to the attached WSDA flyer*)
- Game bird production facilities
- National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) participants/commercial operations
- Sick bird calls

2011 WSDA Avian Influenza Surveillance Samples

Location	# of Eggs Tested	# of Samples Taken
Auctions/Sales		613
Fairs/Bird Shows		60
Backyard Flocks	474	238
Game Birds		5
NPIP	100	404
Commercial	1,058	
Sick Bird Calls		29
Small Producers/Farmers Markets	291	
Total	1,923	1,349

The USDA reports:

- **If AI detection in the US:**
 - The USDA would work quickly and closely with federal, state, and industry partners

	<p>to monitor other bird species such as migratory waterfowl.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If AI detection in Wild Birds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased testing in the area to determine which species is affected to track their migratory path ○ Alert to federal, state, and local governments would be sent out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The public would be used to report groups of dead birds to see if it is spreading <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioner Chandorkar shared his concern regarding bird diseases such as Avian Flu and requested additional information regarding response to an outbreak.</p>	
<p>7. Provide additional information regarding containment code. Can the proposed code be enhanced to ensure proper containment of animals on the property? <i>(Flynn)</i></p> <p>Code as initially proposed: <i>(d) Confinement. Adequate measures shall be taken to provide safety for</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: Staff recommends maintaining the confinement code as initially proposed. The City’s code enforcement officers utilize a system of notifying animal owners of violations and work in partnership with King County’s animal services.</p> <p>Citywide code allows fences up to six feet in height. Some species of chicken can reach the top of a six foot fence in one flight and others might “hop” using other objects to reach the top of the fence. Some chickens enjoy periods of roosting at high elevations. Such chickens would then have the choice of descending into adjacent yards.</p> <p>Chicken wire or bird netting can be applied to the top of a run to ensure that chickens do not fly over the fence. Some coop designs recommend using a sturdy, wide-gauge metal fencing on the bottom of a coop and run to prevent escape and predation.</p> <p>As an example of containment code, the City of Bellevue requires either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A lot which is fenced along all lot lines so as to enclose the entire lot, or 2) An enclosed portion of a lot which is bounded by fences along either the entire front lot line or 	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

<p><i>the chickens and to prevent them from straying onto adjacent property.</i></p>	<p>entire rear lot line, and along a portion of both side lot lines, which utilizes the house or primary structure as one side of the enclosure and which may include all or a portion of either or both side yards.</p> <p>The City of Kirkland requires the applicant to provide a suitable structure or pen to house the animals, and must maintain that structure or pen in a clean condition.</p> <p>Seattle Tilth and many other husbandry resources recommend providing an enclosure for the safety of the chicken and acknowledge daytime roaming for foraging.</p> <p>The City of Mukilteo requires a permit with on-site farm plan, approved by the Snohomish Conservation District.</p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioner Flynn requested additional code provisions regarding adequate containment of animals on the subject property. He asked staff to address fencing as a technique to ensure that animals do not stray beyond the respective property line.</p>	
<p>8. Provide code provisions from neighboring jurisdictions. Include additional information regarding setbacks and code from the City of Kirkland. <i>(Julinsey, Flynn, Chandorkar)</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: For the Commission’s reference:</p> <p>City of Bellevue BMC 20.20.130 Animal keeping and services</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

Type of Animal/Use	Maximum Number (1)	Minimum Lot Size	Minimum Setback (5)
1. Household Pets (6)	Dogs, Cats, Rabbits: 3(2); Fowl: 6(4); Other: no maximum	No minimum	May not be restrained or enclosed outdoors so that the animal is able to come within 15 feet of a property line. This limitation does not prohibit the keeping of a household pet within the following areas, provided it must be allowed to roam freely therein: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A lot which is fenced along all lot lines so as to enclose the entire lot, or 2) An enclosed portion of a lot which is bounded by fences along either the entire front lot line or entire rear lot line, and along a portion of both side lot lines, which utilizes the house or primary structure as one side of the enclosure and which may include all or a portion of either or both side yards. 3) No structure to house the household pet may be within 15 feet of a property line.

Notes: Animal Regulations
 (1) Number of adult animals. One unweaned litter of offspring and foals are not included in the number of animals allowed.
 (2) More than three rabbits are regulated as small domestic animals.
 (3) Requires a Conditional Use Permit.
 (4) More than six fowl are regulated as small domestic animals.
 (5) The purpose of these setback requirements is to prohibit the confinement of an animal within specific distances from neighboring property, as by leashing the animal to a stake or placing the animal in an enclosure, but to allow animals to be kept in yards fenced on their perimeter so long as the animal is free to roam within the fenced area.
 (6) Special Regulations: Open pasture, foraging or grazing may extend to the property line.
 ...

City of Kirkland
 2. Types of Animals – Animals will be regulated according to the following categories:
 b. Small Domestic Animals – The following animals will be regulated as small domestic animals:

- 1) More than three (3) dogs per dwelling unit.
- 2) More than three (3) cats per dwelling unit.
- 3) More than a total of four (4) dogs and cats per dwelling unit.

- 4) More than four (4) rabbits per dwelling unit.
- 5) Fowl.

TYPE OF ANIMAL ↓	REGULATIONS ↓	Required Review Process	MAXIMUM	MINIMUMS		Special Regulations
			Number of Adult Animals	Lot Size	Setback	
Small Domestic Animals		None	20 per 35,000 sq. ft. of lot area and 1 per each additional 500 sq. ft. of lot area. Maximum of 3 fowl on lots less than 35,000 sq. ft. in RSA zones.	35,000 sq. ft. per dwelling unit. No minimum lot size for fowl in RSA zones.	Structures and pens used to house animals must be at least 40' from each property line, except structures and pens used to house 3 fowl or less must be at least 10' from each property line.	1. The City may limit the number of animals allowed to less than the maximum considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Proximity to dwelling units both on and off the subject property; and b. Lot size and isolation; and c. Compatibility with surrounding uses; and d. Potential noise impacts. 2. The applicant must provide a suitable structure or pen to house the animals, and must maintain that structure or pen in a clean condition. 3. Roosters are prohibited on lots containing less than 35,000 sq. ft.

Public Comment:

	<p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioners Julinsey, Flynn, and Chandorkar requested additional information regarding codes from neighboring jurisdictions particularly addressing setbacks and the City of Kirkland’s restrictions/allowance for chickens.</p>	
<p>9. Why require screening from adjacent streets and access corridors but not from neighboring property? <i>(Chandorkar)</i></p> <p>Code as initially proposed: <i>(3) Chicken shelter, run, and other structures such as feed storage shall not be located in the front yard and shall be screened at a minimum of Type II – Visual Screen (RZC 21.32 Landscaping) from adjoining streets and access corridors.</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: Staff recommends maintaining the screening requirements as initially proposed and not including additional provisions oriented from the perspective of adjacent, private property owners. Screening from adjacent, private properties can be subjective and may not be as easily enforced by a Redmond Code Enforcement Officer (RCEO). For example, the RCEO must obtain permission in advance of accessing a private property. To view the possible violation, the RCEO would also need to obtain access to the specific viewpoint from which the property owner views the adjacent chicken coop and run. In some instances, the RCEO may require escort by a uniformed Redmond Police Officer.</p> <p>The subject visibility might be intermittent depending upon the season or other conditions. As is the case today, the RCEO can only enforce what they see or experience firsthand. Therefore, staff recommends limiting the screening requirement to vantage points from where an RCEO can gain immediate access, outside of privately owned structures, and likely not require an escort.</p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <p><u>PC Comments:</u></p> <p>9/21/2011: Commissioner Chandorkar asked for additional evaluation of screening requirements including whether the chicken coop and run could be screen from adjacent properties.</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>
<p>10. Provide diagram of site for a 3,000 square foot residential lot. <i>(Chandorkar, Miller)</i></p>	<p><u>Staff Comment/Recommendation:</u></p> <p>10/12/2011: Figure 10A below depicts a 3,000 sq. ft. residential lot that is consistent with R-8 site and design codes. The dwelling’s footprint is 37’x25’ and 35’ in height. Consistent with the recommended 15’ setbacks from all property lines, the coop and run comprise a total of 32 sq. ft.</p>	<p>Opened 9/21/11</p>

The coop itself is 4'(w)x3'(d)x4'(h), including 4 square feet per each of the three allowed chickens. The run includes the area below the coop and a covered adjacent area (4' in height), all surrounded by chicken wire for a total of 32 sq. ft. (suggested minimum of 10 sq. ft. of confined area per each of the three allowed chickens).

The R-8 zone calls for a 5'/10' side yard setback and a 10' rear yard setback. While the combination of side yard setbacks and width of a residential structure would allow for adequate siting of a chicken coop and run, the developed depth of the rear yard and associated setback may preclude some properties from complying with the minimum requirements. In this case, the property would not be permitted to house chickens. Figure 10B provides an example of an R-8 zone with recent residential development. In this location, it is possible that some of the lots would not provide sufficient rear setbacks for siting of a chicken coop and run. On the remaining lots, a coop and run could be placed in the center (by lot width) and 15 feet south of the rear property lines.

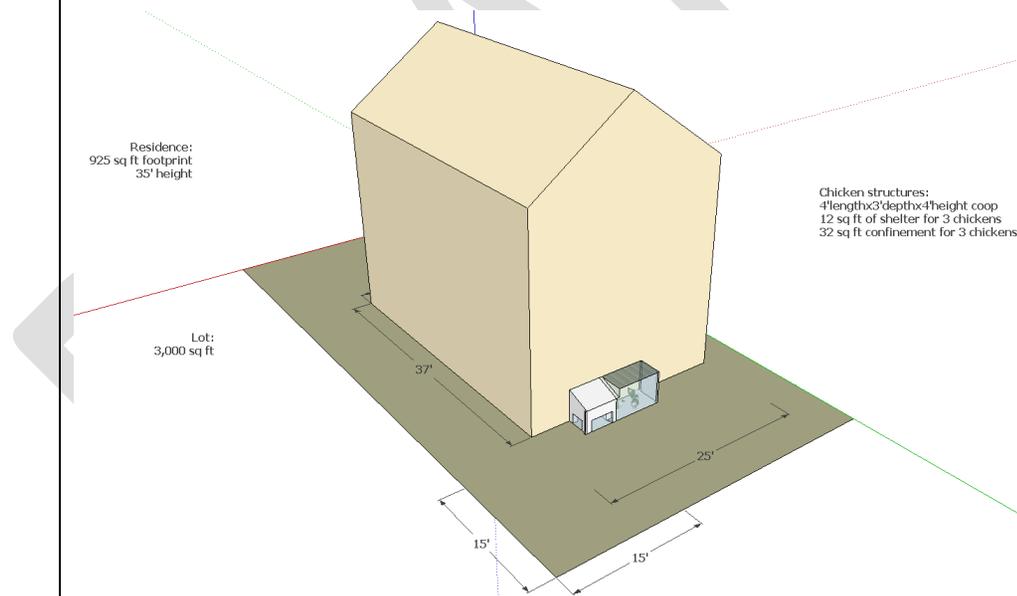


FIGURE 10A: 3,000 SQ FT LOT



DIAGRAM 10B: R-8 LOT AND SITING SAMPLE

Public Comment:

PC Comments:

9/21/2011: Commissioner Chandorkar and Miller requested a diagram depicting appropriate siting of animal structures and respective setbacks on a 3,000 (small) square foot lot.