

Section 3.21 Recreation Animals.

1. Recreation animals, as defined in this Ordinance, shall be permitted in Districts so allowed, provided:

a. The parcel on which the animals are located is not within a recorded plat, excluding assessor and supervisor plats.

b. The minimum area for the keeping of domesticated pets or recreation animals, except as otherwise provided, shall be two (2) acres if the subject property is a conforming lot of record. If the subject property is not a conforming lot of record, the minimum shall be 3 acres. One (1) horse, mule, donkey, or cow or two (2) goats, sheep, hogs, or other similar domestic animal raised and kept as a pet or for recreational purposes, shall be permitted on the first two (2) acres (3 acres for nonconforming lots). Additional animals, in the quantity described above, shall be permitted for each additional acre of land up to ten (10) acres.

c. The minimum area for the keeping of domesticated fowl, except as otherwise provided, shall be two (2) acres. Twenty-five (25) chickens, ten (10) turkeys, geese or other similar domestic fowl, when raised and kept for other than commercial breeding and/or commercial egg production, shall be permitted on the first two (2) acres. Additional animals, in the quantity described above, shall be permitted for each additional acre of land up to ten (10) acres.

d. The keeping of animals, as described above, shall further be subject to any applicable local, state and county health regulations.

e. Manure piles shall be stored, removed, and/or applied in accordance with Michigan Department of Agriculture and County Health Department regulations.

Section 3.22 Keeping of Pets.

The keeping, raising, and breeding of pet animals, including dogs and cats, for show purposes, protection of property, or for personal enjoyment is allowed in any zoning district, subject to the following conditions:

1. The keeping of two (2) or fewer dogs and/or cats is generally considered to have minimal nuisance value, and no site improvement or method of housing said pets is required. However, this does not set aside requirements to comply with county or state regulations regarding licensure, personal liability, and freedom to leave the property.

2. The keeping of more than two (2) but less than six (6) dogs and/or cats six (6) months old or older requires the following site improvements and housing requirements:

a. Said pets shall be restricted from leaving the site unattended.

b. In the event said pets are housed outside the principal structure on the site, the structure housing the pets shall be located no less than twenty-five (25) feet from any lot line. In the event a fence is not located around the perimeter of the site, a fence shall be constructed around the structure housing said pets.

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c. The height of the required fence shall be adequate to prevent any pet from getting beyond the boundaries of the fenced enclosure. The fence shall be adequately secured to the ground to prevent tunneling beneath the fence.