

The information in this document is for guidance purposes only. Please refer to the Development Standards and Regulations for the complete set of the county's official regulations.



ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO

ANIMALS

General Permit Requirements

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



HOUSEHOLD PETS

Household pets generally include cats, dogs, guinea pigs, chinchillas, ferrets, and rabbits. **However, the maximum number of cats and dogs is regulated by property size and zone district.** You must follow the Private Kennel and Cattery regulations if you have more than 10 cats or dogs.

Maximum Number of Cats and Dogs

	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Zone District	Less than 1.0 acre	1-5 acres	5-10 acres	10-35+ acres
Agricultural A-1, A-2, A-3	4 cats 4 dogs	4 cats 4 dogs	5 cats 6 dogs	8 cats 8 dogs
Residential Estate R-E	3 cats 2 dogs	4 cats 3 dogs	5 cats 4 dogs	5 cats 4 dogs
Single-Family R-1-A, R-1-C	3 cats 2 dogs	4 cats 3 dogs	4 cats 3 dogs	5 cats 4 dogs
Duplex/Mobile Homes R-2, MH	2 cats 2 dogs	3 cats 3 dogs	3 cats 3 dogs	4 cats 4 dogs
Multi-Family R-3, R-4	1 cat 1 dog	1 cat 1 dog	1 cat 1 dog	1 cat 1 dog

The chart above summarizes the maximum number of cats and dogs permitted on a property. The maximum number of household pets is regulated based on zone district and property size. For more information and permit requirements, please see Section 4-22 of the Adams County Development Standards & Regulations.

HOUSEHOLD PET KEEPING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I have a pot-bellied pig?

- Pot-bellied pigs are considered swine and are not allowed in residential zone districts.

Can I have poisonous animals?

- Any venomous or lethal animals, including poisonous and/or constrictor snakes, lizards, toads, or arachnids, are prohibited per Section 11-02-412.

LIVESTOCK ANIMAL KEEPING TABLE AND CHARTS

Definition: Includes alpacas, beefalo, bison, burros, cattle, chickens, deer, ducks, geese, elk, emus, goats, horses, llamas, mules, ostriches, sheep, swine, turkeys, etc.

	Acres	Acres	Acres
Zone District	Less than 1.0 acre	1-10 acres	10+ acres
Agricultural A-1, A-2, A-3	4 units/acre	4 units/acre	Not regulated
Residential Estate R-E	Not allowed	2 units/acre	2 units/acre
Single-Family R-1-A, R-1-C	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed
Multi-Family R-2, R-3, R-4, MH	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed

How do I calculate Livestock Units?

Animal units establish an equivalent density for various species of livestock.

Animal Type	# of Animals in 1 Unit
Sheep and Swine	4 animals
Goats	8 animals
Ducks, Geese, Turkey, Chickens/Roosters	50 animals
Bees (Colonies)	5 colonies
Cattle, Bison, Other Livestock	1 animal
Horses, Llamas, Alpacas, Mules	1 animal

***Some animals may require approval of a Special Use Permit. For more information, please see** [Section 4-22-08 of the Adams County Development Standards & Regulations.](#)

LIVESTOCK ANIMAL KEEPING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where are livestock animals allowed?

- Agricultural (A-1, A-2, A-3) over 0.5 acres
- Residential Estate (R-E) over 1 acre

Can I have chickens/roosters at my property?

- Poultry and/or livestock is allowed only in the Agricultural and Residential Estate zone districts.

Can I have bees/colonies?

- Allowed in Agricultural, Residential Estate, and Single-Family Residential zone districts
- Property must be at least 1 acre in size
- Number of colonies is limited by property size

What are the sanitation requirements?

- Manure - All manure shall be removed periodically or incorporated into the soil on a regular basis so the manure does not draw flies and other insects or cause obnoxious odors.

Do animal structures need a permit?

- All structures over 200 square feet require a building permit
- All structures must meet the required setback regulations
- All fences and walls over 42 inches in height require a building permit

Resources:

- Division of Wildlife (groundhogs, prairie dogs, skunks, raccoons)
 - <http://cpw.state.co.us/>
- Animal Management (barking dogs, at-large animals)
 - 720.523.6800
- Animal Shelter/Adoption Center (adoptions, lost pets, vaccines)
 - <https://www.adcogov.org/animalshelter>
 - 303.288.3294
- Tri-County Health Department (waste management)
 - <http://www.tchd.org>

For more information, please see Section 4-22-08 of the Adams County Development Standards & Regulations.



STAY CONNECTED:

4430 S. Adams County Parkway, Brighton, CO 80601



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