



# Town of Camp Verde

## Community Development Department

◆ 473 S. Main Street, Suite 108 ◆ Camp Verde, Arizona 86322 ◆

◆ Telephone: 928.554.0050 ◆ [www.campverde.az.gov](http://www.campverde.az.gov) ◆

May 17, 2023

To: Gayle Mabery, Interim Town Manager, and  
Barbara Goodrich, Interim Deputy Town Manager

From: John Knight, Director Community Development

REF: Review and Analysis of how livestock animals are regulated  
within the Town of Camp Verde in comparison with other jurisdictions

**Purpose and Scope:** The purpose of this document is to compile and provide basic information regarding the current Planning and Zoning Ordinance for Camp Verde with regard to the Town's regulation of animals, specifically livestock and dogs (i.e. household pets). Primarily, this document reviews Section 305, which is entitled "*Animals*" and then provides a comparison of how the Town regulates animals compared with other jurisdictions.

The first portion of this document reviews the current status of the Town's Planning and Zoning Ordinance as well as a brief history of how and when the current ordinance came into existence. The second portion provides a brief overview and comparison of how twelve (12) other municipalities and/or counties regulate animals (primarily livestock and dogs) and how those municipalities compare to the current Camp Verde regulations.

**What this document is not:** This document or "white paper" has been prepared by the Community Development Department. This document is not a legal opinion or comprehensive legal brief.

**What this document is:** This document is intended as a general overview of the Town's animal regulations and how they compare with other jurisdictions. It is primarily focused on personal or residential keeping and use of animals rather than commercial or full-scale agricultural operations.

This overview is not intended to provide all the details and nuances which may be contained within each of the jurisdiction's regulations regarding the keeping, housing and use of animals (livestock and dogs). For instance, this document does not look at similar and accessory uses of animals such as roping arenas. Additionally, it does not review all of the

various nuisance regulations or look closely at types and conditions for use permits and/or commercial animal or agricultural operations such as feed lots and livestock sales.

An excel spreadsheet has also been prepared as an accompanying/quick-reference which shows the comparison information in an abbreviated format.

**Current Animal Count Ordinance for the Town of Camp Verde:** Currently, larger animals, i.e. – livestock, are permitted within all zoning districts within the Town. The number and types of permitted animals are guided by the 2011 Planning and Zoning Ordinance, Section 305, which is included as Attachment A (page 33).

Generally, the guidance is provided by a point system. Below are the basic requirements:

**Household pets such as dogs and cats** are regulated by the Town Code (not the Planning and Zoning Ordinance).

- 6 dogs are permitted for each residence.
- Cats are not regulated, but considered roaming animals.

**Rabbits, guinea pigs and fowl**, such as chickens, ducks and turkeys are permitted at all residents within the Town and are unlimited in numbers. Enclosures or cages for these animals are required to meet the same setbacks as a dwelling unit or residence.

**Swine** (pigs), are permitted, but restricted to 1-per property. A 1-acre minimum lot is required.

**Livestock Animals** (animals such as horses, cattle, ponies, mules, sheep, goats and large poultry such as emus and ostriches):

- A minimum of ½ acre is required to have or keep livestock.
- Lots or parcels of ½ acre to 1-acre in size are attributed 24-points.
- Points are increased by 6-points per each ¼-acre of additional and contiguous land.

Example: A 2 ¼ acre lot would be attributed 54 points as follows:

1 acre	=	24 points
+ 2 <sup>nd</sup> acre	=	24 points
+ ¼ acre	=	6 points
2 ¼ acres	=	54 points

<b>SPECIES (or associated types)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	<b>SPECIES (or associated types)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
Alpacas:	3 POINTS	Miniature horses, Ponies and Sicilian donkeys:	6 POINTS
Emus:	3 POINTS	Ostriches:	6 POINTS
Pygmy goats:	3 POINTS	Cattle:	12 POINTS
Sheep, Goats:	4 POINTS	Domestic deer:	12 POINTS
Llamas:	6 POINTS	Horses, Mules, and Donkeys	12 POINTS

**Setbacks for barns or other structures housing livestock (all animals):** Shall meet the same setbacks as a dwelling unit, or residence on any parcel.

**Background and History of Town Animal Count:** The Town of Camp Verde incorporated in December of 1986 and on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1987, the first Town Council adopted the existing Yavapai County Planning and Zoning Ordinances as the Town’s first P&Z Ordinance (Ordinance 1987-A2). This first Ordinance embedded the keeping of livestock animals as a permitted use within the each of the Use Districts (then Section 109). Below is how Yavapai County’s older ordinance, and therefore the subsequent first P&Z Ordinance for the Town, permitted livestock:

**July 1987 – April of 2000 the Town’s Planning and Zoning Ordinance:** Livestock animals were essentially limited to two (2) livestock animals per 0.8/acres. The R1L district had a higher standard of two (2) livestock animals per 1.6/acres.

- R1L - “Farm animals” may be kept on parcels which are no less than 70,000SF (1.6 acres) and shall not exceed two (2) animals per acre.
- R1 - “Farm animals” may be kept on parcels which are no less than 35,000SF (0.8 acres) and shall not exceed two (2) animals per acre.
- R2, RS, C1, C2, C3, PM, M1, M2 – Same as R1 (above)
- RCU (R-R in today’s Ordinance) - Same as R1 (above)

**1990 – Livestock Overlay Zone (1990-A48)** was created whereby owners within R1L Zones could combine the use of contiguous parcels in order to house or corral livestock for multiple owners on one or more contiguous lots. The stated purpose of this overlay zone was to allow residents within R1L districts to own or maintain the same number of farm animals as was permitted in other zoning districts. As shown above, residents within an R1L district were required to have twice the acreage in order to own or house the same number of farm animals as an owner within an R1 district. This overlay zone was created in an effort to

achieve parity for the R1L landowners as regards to keeping farm animals to be similar to the other zoning districts within the Town.

**April of 2000, Ordinance 2000-A155:** Adoption of the first animal-count point system (repealed all previous provisions for the keeping of animals within the Use Districts).

Note: This is essentially the same point system that is in use today with the exception of being able to parse animal points by the ¼ acre (6-points per ¼ acre), rather by full acres.

**ANIMAL POINT CHART**

One-half acre through one acre:	24 ANIMAL POINTS
One acre plus through two acres:	48 ANIMAL POINTS
Over Two acres:	24 ANIMAL POINTS per additional acre

**SPECIES**

<u>SPECIES (or associated types)</u>	<u>POINTS PER ADULT ANIMAL</u>
Alpacas:	3 POINTS
Emus:	3 POINTS
Pygmy goats:	3 POINTS
Sheep, Goats:	4 POINTS
Llamas:	6 POINTS
Miniature horses, Ponies and Sicilian donkeys:	6 POINTS
Ostriches:	6 POINTS
Swine:	6 POINTS
Cattle:	12 POINTS
Domestic deer:	12 POINTS
Horses, Mules, and Donkeys:	12 POINTS

*(If the property owner wants to increase the number of livestock on their property, they must have the total number of points required for that species)*

**2008-A155 A348 Ordinance:** Modifications to the 2000 Ordinance which brings this section of the Ordinance into its present day status.

- Added ability to calculate points via ¼ acre for parcels greater than 1-acre.
- Removed swine from point system and allowed only 1 per 1-acre parcel.
- Added Use Permits for commercial livestock operations and livestock breeding operations.
- Added Youth Permits.
- Miscellaneous other text amendments (not associated with animals).

**2011-A374 Ordinance:** Major revision and update of entire P&Z Ordinance, including re-organization and renumbering of sections. No major substantive changes to the Animal Count other than receiving a new section number. Now Section 305 (previously Section 108).

## **General Analysis:**

This white paper provides basic information on how livestock and other animals such as chickens and dogs are regulated in nearby and/or similar municipalities, specifically:

Counties here and nearby, specifically

Yavapai County (page 8) and

Coconino County (page 10).

Communities within the Verde Valley;

Cottonwood (page 12),

Clarkdale (page 14),

Jerome (page 15), and

Sedona (page 16).

Other similar municipalities which Camp Verde is often compared;

Chino Valley (page 18),

Prescott (page 20),

Prescott Valley (page 23),

Wickenburg (page 25),

Payson (page 28), and

Queen Creek (page 30).

**General Observations:** The Town of Camp Verde is the least restrictive community within the Verde Valley regarding the keeping of livestock and chickens. This also includes the unincorporated regions/communities of Yavapai County.

With the exception of the Town of Chino Valley, Camp Verde is the least restrictive of all jurisdictions which were reviewed for this paper. However, even the Town of Camp Verde is less restrictive than Chino Valley in one area, which is the minimum lot size allowed for the keeping of livestock. The Town allows the keeping of livestock animals on parcels or lots of only ½ acre, whereby Chino requires lots to be at least 1-acre in size before livestock may be kept. Otherwise, Chino Valley has almost no other limitations on livestock.

Below are general observations comparing Camp Verde to other jurisdictions.

**Minimum size of parcel or property whereby livestock may be kept:**

- Cottonwood and Jerome allow livestock on lots just under ½ acre, but only within specified agricultural zoning districts. Livestock are not permitted within traditional residential zoning districts.
- Camp Verde and Prescott allow 2-head of livestock on 0.5 acre.
- All other jurisdictions require either 0.8 or 1-acre to keep livestock.

Only the Town of Camp Verde allows an increase in the number of animals via ¼-acre increments. All other jurisdictions allow increases by 1/2-acre or 1-acre increments.

**Where livestock is permitted within a Town:** In general, the Town of Camp Verde, Clarkdale, Prescott, Prescott Valley, Yavapai County and Coconino County all permit the keeping of livestock and chickens on a town-wide (or county wide) basis while the other jurisdictions limit the keeping of livestock and chickens to specified zoning districts.

Most of the other jurisdictions limit the keeping of livestock only to agricultural districts and/or only residential districts.

**Type of livestock or animals permitted or allowed (excluding chickens/poultry):** The Town of Camp Verde and Yavapai County are nearly the same with the type of animals permitted. Additionally, both jurisdictions utilize a nearly identical animal count system. The only difference between the two is the Town limits pigs/swine to 1-animal per 1-acre lot, whereby Yavapai does not limit the number of pigs, except by acreage.

Generally, most jurisdictions define livestock similarly to the Town of Camp Verde. Typically, livestock includes *horses, cattle, ponies, mules, sheep, and goats*. Sometimes the term “*neat animals*” is used to describe animals within the bovine genus. Some jurisdictions use the term *hoofed animals*.

Camp Verde is somewhat unique in that it includes large poultry such as such as emus and ostriches within its definition of livestock. Also similar to Camp Verde, most jurisdictions regulate chicken and poultry separately from ‘livestock’ animals. However, a few jurisdictions limit livestock to only horses and cattle.

**Chickens and/or Poultry:** Only the Town of Camp Verde allows unlimited poultry within the Town. All other jurisdictions limit the keeping of poultry by zone and/or by parcel or lot size.

Most jurisdictions prohibit roosters while they are allowed in all zoning districts in Camp Verde. Additionally, the Camp Verde Ordinance is silent regarding “at large” or “free ranging” of chicken or poultry. Most jurisdictions prohibit at large, or roaming chickens (or any other animals). In fact, most jurisdictions require chickens to be kept only in back yards, prohibiting them to be kept or housed in a side or front yard.

**Swine:** Swine are generally prohibited in most jurisdictions. However, if they are permitted, then a minimum of 1-acre is required and the number of swine are limited or capped to only a few animals.

Interesting, pot-bellied pigs are often regulated separately than swine. Where regulated separately, they are permitted with limits such as 1-3 animals on parcels of at least 1-acre, and by size (100 pounds or less). Interestingly, Queen Creek, permits pot-bellied pigs, but requires owners to license and register them similar to dogs.

**Youth Permits:** Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Cottonwood, Chino Valley and Queen Creek have special permits for educational, youth or project animals. Generally, these special permits allow the keeping of livestock animals in areas of the jurisdiction where they otherwise would be prohibited or, as in the case of Camp Verde, allow an increase to the animal count provision.

**Dogs:** Dogs are permitted within all of the reviewed jurisdictions. However, there is a broad range of the number permitted; ranging from no limits (6 of the 12 jurisdictions) to 3, 4, 6 or 10-dogs per residence. Jurisdictions permitting larger numbers do so but also require greater acreage for more animals, such as Coconino County. Wickenburg is one of the jurisdictions which has no specified limit for dogs per residence; however, they require a commercial kennel license for anyone keeping more than 4-dogs.

## **Jurisdiction Review and Comparison:**

The following section looks specifically at each jurisdiction, providing general information for each, then provides a comparison of that jurisdiction to the Town of Camp Verde.

**Yavapai County:** Generally, livestock are described and regulated as “Farm Animals” within the County Ordinance and are permitted as an accessory use within all zoning districts.

Farm Animals are defined by the county as:

*Animals other than household pets that shall be permitted to, where permitted, be kept and maintained for commercial production and sale and/or family food production, education or recreation. Farm animals are identified as being e.g. horses, cattle, swine, llamas, sheep, goats, rabbits, chinchillas, chickens, turkeys, pheasants, geese, ducks, and pigeons.*

- 0.8 acre is the minimum lot/parcel size for most zoning districts for the keeping of farm animals.
- R1L zones require a minimum of 1.6 acres for the keeping of farm animals.
- Setbacks for barns and other structures to house farm animals are required to meet the same setbacks as residential structures.
- All animals are required to be at least 15 feet from any property line.
- Animals less than 1-year old, or until weaned, are not included within the animal count.
- Chickens are limited to either 8 animals per lot or residence, or 8-per acre. Yavapai’s Ordinance is contradictory.
- Youth or other specific animal husbandry-educational projects such as 4-H, Future Farmers of America are permitted in all zoning districts with the following criteria”
  - Active membership maintained (verification may be required),
  - All animals are kept in compliance with Yavapai County Environmental Unit and Health Department,
  - Property to have a sign posting the property as a 4H (or other) at all times when the project is in progress.
- Swine are permitted; no more than 2-animals per acre with a maximum allowance of 5-swine per parcel.
- Dogs are not limited.



The number and type of farm animals per parcel size is guided by the below Animal Chart:

D. ALLOWED ANIMAL CHART

Allowed Animal Chart

Animal Type	Animals ALLOWED
CATEGORY A – Swine*, Dairy Cow, Bison, Steer/Heifer, Horse or other of similar size/weight	2 PER ACRE or fraction thereof
CATEGORY B - Ostrich, Miniature Horse, Llama, Sheep, Goat, Emu or other of similar size/weight	5 PER ACRE or fraction thereof
CATEGORY C - Turkeys, Peacocks, Geese, Pheasants, Ducks, Pigeons, Chinchillas, Rabbits, Chickens or other of similar size/weight	8 PER ACRE or fraction thereof
Off-spring up to one year of age of on-site animals do not count towards the total. After one year of age animal off-spring count as adult animals. *Swine shall not exceed five (5) total per parcel.	

**Comparison of Yavapai County with Camp Verde:** Generally, the County is a little more restrictive than the Town.

- Minimum lot size for the County is 0.8 acre, while the Town allows livestock on ½ acre. Note - R1L zoned residences require 1.6 acres in order to have livestock.
- Fowl are defined as “Farm Animals” with a maximum allowance of 8 per either residence or acre, while Town treats fowl separately and does not limit the number per parcel (Yavapai ordinance is contradictory on chickens).
- Roosters are specifically prohibited within all residential zones whereas the Town allows roosters in all zones.
- Setbacks for barns and other animal housing structures are the same with the County as the Town. These structures must meet the same setbacks as a residential structure in both jurisdictions.
- All animals are required to be at least 15 feet from any property line while the Town has no limitation on allowing animals immediately adjacent to property lines.
- Youth or educational animal projects:
  - County does not require special permits for youth or other educational projects such as FFA or 4-H.
- County applies the same animal count criteria to youth educational projects, excepting 4-H (which may exceed the animal count, but is required to post sign on property). The Town allows youth educational programs to be on less than ½ acre and/or exceed animal count with a special youth permit.
- Yavapai county allows swine, limited to 2-animals per 1 acre minimum with a maximum allowance of 5-swine per any parcel.
- Dogs within Yavapai County are not limited; whereas the Town limits 6-dogs per residence.

**Coconino County:** Generally, livestock, chickens and dogs are regulated as a special use or conditioned on a county wide basis. The following is Coconino's definitions:

*Livestock shall mean all animals that are used as (or which are the source of) agricultural commodities. Included are cattle (beef or dairy), bison, equines (all horses, mules, burros, and asses), sheep, goats (excluding miniature goats), swine (excluding feral pigs), camelids and ratites.*

*Poultry is a domesticated bird that is used to produce meat or eggs, including but not limited to chickens, hens, roosters, ducks, turkeys, peafowl and geese.*

- 1-acre minimum for horses and livestock;
- 3-horses or livestock allowed on 1<sup>st</sup> acre;
- 1-additional horse or livestock animal permitted with each additional ½-acre;
- Setbacks for all animals is 55' from any property line which includes feeding, water and housing of all animals;
- Rabbits and poultry are regulated together and allow up to 5 animals on all parcels (regardless of zone or size) for a maximum of 20 animals in all zones excepting G and AR which may have up to 40 animals. Additional animals (rabbits or poultry) are allowed 1-additional animal per 1,000SF of the lot or parcel until the maximum of 20 or 40 (depending upon zoning) is reached.
- Swine, excepting pot-bellied pigs, are limited to a maximum of 3 animals on 1-acre lots and may be increased by 1-animal per additional ½ acre.
- Pot-bellied pigs are limited to 2-animals per ½ acre, with an increase of 2-additional animals per each ½ acre. Pot-bellied pigs are limited to 60 pounds per animal
- Coconino County has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1-acre whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Dogs are limited to 4-animals on parcels up to 1-acre in size; one additional dog is allowed per additional ½ acre to a maximum of 10 dogs for any residence or lot.

**Comparison of Coconino County with Town of Camp Verde:** Generally, the Coconino County is a little more restrictive than the Town.

- Minimum lot size for Coconino County is 1-acre for horses and livestock, while Town allows livestock on ½ acre.
- Coconino County allows up to 3-horses or livestock per 1-acre, while the Town only permits 2 livestock per acre, animal counts may be increased via ¼ acre limit in the Town, while Coconino increases the animal count via ½ acre increments.
- Coconino County has a 55' foot setback to feed, water or shelter any horses or livestock, while the Town has no limitation and allows livestock to be immediately adjacent property lines (excepting barns or similar housing structures of animals which are required to meet residential setbacks).
- Fowl are limited to 5-animals on smaller parcels with overall limits of 20 animals or 40 animals depending on the zone, while the Town regulates fowl separately and does not limit the number per parcel.
- 1-acre minimum for roosters, turkeys, peafowl, geese or similar “noisy animals”.
- Swine, similar to Camp Verde, are permitted on a parcel of 1- acre or greater. However, Coconino County permits up to 3-animals on 1-acre, while the Town caps swine to only 1-animal per acre/residence.
- Coconino County allows pot-bellied pigs; limited 2-animals per ½ acre when animals are no larger than 60 pounds; whereas pot-bellied pigs are treated the same as swine within Camp Verde.
- Setbacks for barns and other animal housing structures are the same with the County as the Town as these structures must meet the same setbacks as a residential structure.
- Coconino County has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1-acre whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Coconino county has a range of permitted dogs, ranging 4-10 dogs depending on the size of the parcel, whereas Camp Verde has a single limit of 6 per residence.

**Cottonwood:** Cottonwood ordinance does not have a definitive definition of livestock or farm animals nor does it regulate animals on a town-wide basis. Instead, the town of Cottonwood regulates animals as either as:

- Household pets - which actually includes chickens,
- Show Animals, or
- Specifically, by Zoning District.

**Household pets:**

- Limited to 3-household pets, such as dogs and cats (excluding birds, fish and other animals which are kept entirely indoors and do not create sound or odor detectable by adjoining neighbors).
- Chickens are permitted in Zones R-1, R-2, R-4 and MH and are limited to 12-animals per household. There is no minimum lot size, but require a 15-foot setback from the property line.
- Roosters are prohibited within the Cottonwood

**“Show Animals,”** also called project animals, are generally livestock animals that are shown at county and state fairs and are being raised for educational purposes. Homes raising these animals are required to annually register the animals-project with the Planning and Zoning Department.

- If residing in other than Agricultural Zones, then these project animals are limited to 6-months with a possible 6-month extension.
- Goat, swine, beef, adult sheep and horses are limited to be raised for show only in Agricultural zones/
- Lamb, rabbits and other small animals may be allowed in residential zones only by permit.
- Setbacks for the above category of ‘show animals’ is 25-feet to any property line.
- Dogs are limited to 3 per household.

**Cottonwood Zoning Districts:**

- GA (General Agricultural): 5-acre minimum parcels for purpose of agriculture
  - Large animals such as cattle and horses, limited 1-per 20,000 SF (0.46 acre) and must be owned by the family occupying the premises (i.e. no boarding of livestock). It appears the number of these large livestock animals is limited only by the size of the parcel which is 1-per 20,000SF.
  - Keeping of fowl (no limit found).

- Goat, swine, beef, adult sheep and horse “show animals.
- AR (Agricultural Residence):
  - Large animals such as cattle and horses, limited 1-per 20,000 SF (0.46 acre) and must be owned by the family occupying the premises (i.e. no boarding of livestock).
  - Keeping of fowl (no limit found).
  - Goat, swine, beef, adult sheep and horse “show animals.”
- R-1 Zone (Single Family Residential), R-2 Zone (Single Family/Multi-family Residential), R-4 Zone (Single family/Multi-family/Manufactured) and MH Zone (Manufactured Home): No animals permitted except as a household pet (which includes chickens and as detailed above) or small project “show animals” such as lambs, rabbits and other small animals which are allowed only by permit and limited to 6-months per calendar year, with a one-time possible extension of 6-months.
- Commercial and Industrial Zones: Animals are not permitted within any of the commercial, or industrial zones except as may apply as a household pet, excluding chickens.
- Cottonwood limits dogs to three (3) dogs per household.

**Comparison of Cottonwood with Town of Camp Verde:** Generally, Cottonwood is significantly more restrictive than the Town.

- Limits general livestock such as horses and cattle to only agricultural zones while the Town permits livestock as a permitted use in all zoning districts.
- Cottonwood allows only one (1) livestock animal, within agricultural zones, on parcels as small as 20,000 SF (0.46 acre) whereas the Town permits two (2) larger livestock animals on parcels of ½-1 acre.
- Smaller livestock animals such as lambs and rabbits are only permitted within residential zones and only if they are part of a project or are ‘show animals’ which is further limited to only 6-months within a calendar year and with a permit from the town. The Town’s Youth Permits allow project animals to be kept on site for 10 months.
- Chickens are limited to 12-animals per household within residential districts; whereas the Town allows unlimited poultry in all zones.
- Dogs are limited to 3-per household, while the Town allows 6 per household.

**Clarkdale:** Animals are regulated as a specific use on a town-wide basis within Clarkdale's Ordinance.

There is no definition of "livestock" or "poultry" within Clarkdale's Ordinance.

- Annual permits are required for the keeping of any animals.
- 1-acre minimum required for livestock or poultry.
- Additional animals may be increased per additional 1-acre increments.
- 2-animals per acre for livestock, appears to be the same limit for poultry, but ordinance is not clear.
- No special provision permits or provision to keep livestock animals on less than 1-acre (i.e. a youth permit).
- Dogs are not limited.

**Comparison of Clarkdale with Town of Camp Verde:** Clarkdale is significantly more restrictive than the Town.

- Clarkdale allows only two (2) livestock animals on a minimum of 1-acre while Camp Verde animal count allows up to 6-8 smaller livestock animals (such as sheep, goats, alpacas, etc.) on an acre. Additionally, Clarkdale requires a full acre to increase the animal count, while the Town allows increases by ¼ acre increments.
- Clarkdale requires an annual permit to keep any animals within the town limits while the Camp Verde never requires a permit to keep animals, other than dog licensing.
  - Clarkdale fees are as follows:
    - Livestock ..... \$25.00 per animal
    - Poultry and other ..... \$10.00 flat fee (maximum 15 animals)  
\$5.00 for each additional 10 animals
    - Renewal after suspension ..... \$20.00 first renewal  
\$50.00 subsequent renewals
- Clarkdale has no provision to permit, or allow, the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1-acre; whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Clarkdale does not limit the quantity of dogs, whereas the Town limits number to 6 per residence.

**Jerome:** Jerome regulates the keeping of animals as a permitted use via zones. Livestock are only permitted in one zoning district.

- 20,300 SF (or 0.46 acre) minimum lot size required to keep livestock.
- Only permitted within AR Zone (Agricultural-Residential Zone).
- Limited to 1-head per 20,300 SF.
- Number of animals is increased by 2 animals per acre.
- More than 2-animals per acre may be increased via an approved conditional use permit.
- Jerome Ordinance is silent regarding poultry.
- Jerome has no provision or permit to keep animals on less than 0.46 acres (i.e. a youth permit).
- Household pets are limited to four (4) pets per household; can be a combination of dogs and or cats, but limited to a total of four (4) animals.

**Comparison of Jerome with Town of Camp Verde:** Jerome is significantly more restrictive than the Town.

- Jerome limits livestock to only one zoning district (AR), whereas the Town allows livestock in all zones within the Town.
- Jerome requires 20,300 SF (0.46 acre) minimum for livestock which is about the same as the Town and appears to allow increase to the number of animals via 1-head per ½ acre.
- Jerome's ordinance is silent regarding poultry which generally means poultry is not permitted; whereas Camp Verde allows an unlimited number of poultry.
- Jerome has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than ½ acre; whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Jerome limits the number of household pets to 4 per household (combination of dog and/or cat), whereas the Town limits dogs to 6 per household.

**Sedona**: Livestock and poultry, defined as “Farm Animals” are regulated in Sedona as an accessory use.

*Farm Animals: Animals other than household pets that may, where permitted, be kept and maintained for family food production, education, or recreation. Farm animals are limited to: Horses, mules, donkeys, cattle, alpacas, llamas, sheep, and goats.*

- 1-acre minimum size for keeping of livestock.
- Maximum of 3-farm animals per acre which may be increased by increments of ½ acre (example a 2-acre parcel may have a max of 5 animals).
- A 50’ setback is required for keeping, sheltering or housing of any farm animal.
- Commercial livestock operations are prohibited within Sedona.
- Farm Animals (livestock) are only allowed in two (2) of the nine (9) residential zones, specifically RS-70 and RS-35, as well as two (2) of their specialty zones (OC - Oak Creek Heritage Area and OS - Open Space) for a total of four (4) of the nineteen (19) zones.
- Chickens (and bees) are allowed by permit only, within all zones of Sedona. Permit is \$50 per residence and appears to be a one-time fee.
- Maximum number of chickens is limited to 4 (or 6) animals, see below for criteria/
  - Lots with an area less than or equal to 20,000 square feet: Up to four (4) chickens.
  - Lots with an area greater than 20,000 square feet: Up to six (6) chickens.
  - Roosters are prohibited.
  - Chickens are required to be in coops dusk to dawn.
  - Chicken coops are highly regulated with strict design criteria (maximum of 6’ tall and within a certain color range).
  - Open ranging of chickens only during daylight hours and only in a rear yard which is fully screened from neighbors view.
- Sedona does not have a special permit or provision to allow the keeping of livestock animals on less than 1-acre lots.
- Swine are prohibited.
- Dogs currently are not limited (however, animal control officer advises they are planning to update their animal section soon and are planning to set a limit).



**Comparison of Sedona with Town of Camp Verde:** Sedona is significantly more restrictive than the Town.

- Sedona requires a minimum lot size of 1-acre to keep farm animals, while the Town allows livestock on ½ parcels.
- Sedona limits livestock to only 4-zones, while the Town allows livestock in all zones.
- Sedona prohibits all commercial livestock, while the Town does not limit or discriminate between commercial or personal use applying the animal count to each type of use. However, the Town also provides an opportunity for a Use Permit, should a commercial or agricultural operation want to exceed the animal count.
- Sedona treats all livestock animals the same, limiting them by the number of animals. Camp Verde uses the animal count point system, deals with animals more by the size of the animal, rather than simply the number of animals. Therefore, a 1-acre parcel in Sedona may have a maximum of 3 farm animals (which is 1-more than the Town if they are horses or cows), while the Town may have either 2-larger animals such as horses or cows, or up to 4 or 5 smaller livestock animals or a combination thereof on lots ½-1 acre in size.
- Sedona has stricter setbacks requiring farm animals to maintain a 50' setback and chickens a 15' setback (also may only be in the rear of a parcel), while the Town does not have animal setbacks.
- Sedona requires a \$50 permit issued by the town in order to keep chickens (and bees) and limits the number of chickens to 4-6 animals, depending on lot size; whereas, the Town has no such limits or required permits.
- Sedona has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1-acre; whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Sedona prohibits swine; whereas the Town allows them on 1-acre parcels, limited to 1-animal per residence.
- Sedona is less restrictive on pets (dogs) as it currently has no limits, while the Town limits dogs 6-per residence.

**Chino Valley:** Generally, livestock are described as “non-household animals” and are permitted uses within all single family residential and commercial zones of 1-acre or greater lot sizes. Zones where the keeping of livestock is a permitted use, there is no limit upon the number or type of livestock other than swine which is limited to 1-swine per acre.

Chino describes/or defines the keeping of livestock as “*Farming and agriculture including the keeping of cattle, horses, swine (limited to one (1) per acre), sheep, goats, fowl, but not feed lots, slaughterhouses, fertilizer yards or plants for the reduction of animal matter.*”

As you can see from the above definition, Chino Valley generally regulates the keeping of chickens (or other fowl) the same as larger livestock such as horses and cattle.

See below for specifics:

- AR, SR, CL and CH Zones (Agriculture-Residential, Single Family, Light Commercial and Heavy Commercial respectively) permit an unlimited number of livestock and fowl/poultry on 1-acre or larger parcels.
- SR Zones less than 1-acre do not permit the keeping of livestock (which includes fowl).
- MR and MHP Zones (Multiple Family Residential and Mobile Home Park respectively) – Livestock are prohibited
- Industrial Zone – keeping of livestock may be permitted. Feed lots and slaughter houses are both permitted uses within this zone.
- Swine is limited to 1 per acre.
- Dogs are not limited.
- “Project Animals” are allowed in all residential zones, regardless of lot size. These project animals must officially be associated with the 4H or FFA programs.
  - Annual permit required for all “project animals.”
  - On parcels less than 1 acre, the types of project animals are limited to only non-hoofed animals such rabbits and poultry (roosters and geese are prohibited).
  - Limited to 9 project animals on any one parcel or lot; however, each ‘project’ is limited to 3 animals. Therefore, to achieve the maximum of 9-animals, a residence will need three different ‘projects.’
  - Stables, pens, cages or other shelters for animal projects shall not be located within the front or side yard setback closer than 10’ to any property line.

**Comparison of Chino Valley with Town of Camp Verde:** Chino Valley is the only Town which is significantly less restrictive than the Town of Camp Verde.

- Chino Valley requires a minimum of 1 acre to keep livestock and other animals whereas the Town allows up to 2 livestock on ½ acre.
- Chino has no limits on the number or type of animals (other than swine) per parcel that is 1 acre or more in size, whereas Camp Verde limits the number based upon the size of a parcel per the animal count chart.
- Chino permits 1 swine per acre, whereas the Town limits swine to only 1 per residence of 1 acre or greater.
- Chino does not allow hooved animals as project animals on parcels less than 1 acre. Whereas, the Town does allow the keeping of hooved, or livestock animals, on parcels less than ½ acre with an appropriate Youth Permit.
- Chino regulates chickens the same as larger livestock, whereas the Town differentiates chicken/poultry from other animals providing almost no limits on the keeping of poultry within the Town.
- Chino does not limit the number of dogs per residence whereas the Town limits dogs to 6-per residence.

Anecdotal information from Chino Community Development staff – Chino Council is getting some pressure to update the Town’s Ordinance regarding animals in order to be more restrictive. However, nothing is currently planned to update this portion of their code.

**City of Prescott:** Prescott regulates the keeping of animals and livestock as a specific permitted use on a town-wide basis, rather than by zone(s). Prescott has two definitions which are used in the regulation of the keeping of animals - see below. Additionally, Prescott has several supplementary regulations regarding the keeping and maintaining of animals such as weekly requirements to remove manure from a property, requirements to keep animals a specified distance from residences, and fencing requirement.

*Livestock, includes but is not limited to horses, ponies, mules, sheep, goats, cattle and other meat animals. Animals includes livestock as well as fowl, birds, rodents, domestic or wild animals owned by or under the control of a person.*

- ½ acre is the minimum lot/parcel size required to keep livestock;
- 2 head of livestock may be kept on ½ acre;
- Additional livestock is allowed by increments of 1-head per each additional ½ acre.
- Chickens and other fowl are unlimited in number, but still require a minimum of ½ acre and are subject to the below containment, fencing, nuisance and sanitation requirements.
- Roosters are prohibited.
- Fences or other enclosures to keep or house livestock are required to be at least 600 SF per head of livestock;
  - Each additional head of livestock requires an additional 300SF;
- Setbacks to keep livestock are
  - 50' from any residential building on the same parcel,
  - 50' from any property line; and
  - 100' from any neighboring residential building.
- Swine and roosters are prohibited; however,
  - Up to two (2) pet pigs are permitted per each household, each pet pig shall not exceed 100 pounds.
- Parcels of 4-acres or less are subject to the following sanitary or nuisance regulations (note: parcels 4+ acres are exempt from the below):
  - Animal droppings or manure shall be removed from pens/enclosures at least weekly.
  - Droppings or manure shall not be stored on a property, unless used for fertilizer and shall not create a nuisance.
  - Adequate fly-tight containers, approved by the County or City, shall be used to store droppings or manure, unless the droppings or manure are removed at least weekly.
  - Water and feed troughs shall be water tight and provide adequate water for all animals on a parcel.

- Feeding of vegetables or meat waste or garbage shall only be done in containers or on an impervious platform.
- Prescott has no special youth or educational permits.
- Dogs are unlimited.

**Comparison of the City of Prescott with Town of Camp Verde:** Prescott and the Town of Camp Verde are very similar in their general regulations regarding size, type and number of animals permitted for each residence.

However, where the two Towns depart in similarity is Prescott has delineated several additional regulations regarding setbacks for the keeping of animals and their housing structures, sanitation and nuisance issues associated with animals.

- Prescott and the Town both require ½-acre to keep livestock, limited to two head per first ½ acre.
- Prescott permits an increase in the number of animals at the rate of 1 per ½ acre, while the Town increases points via ¼ acre increments. Therefore, for larger livestock such as horses and cattle, the Town and City of Prescott are the same. However, the Town allows the number of animals to be increased via ¼ acre increments, thereby allowing a greater number of the smaller livestock animals such as goats or sheep.
- Prescott, like the Town, allows an unlimited number of chickens/fowl for each residence. However, Prescott requires a minimum of ½ acre to keep fowl and Prescott requires fowl be contained with the same constraints as livestock.
- Prescott prohibits swine, but allows up to two (2) pet pigs, less than 100 pounds for each for each residence, whereas the Town allows only one (1) swine per parcel that is at least 1 acre or greater in size.
- Prescott has no special permits for youth or educational programs, whereas the Town has a Youth Permit program which permits families to keep a limited number of animals that may live on parcels less than ½ acre. The youth are required to part of a bonified program such as 4-H or FFA and to get an annual permit.
- Prescott has no limit on dogs, whereas the Town limits dogs to 6-per residence.
- Prescott has additional sanitation, setback and nuisance regulations for the keeping of animals on lots or parcels of 4 acres or less, whereas the Town has none of these.
  - Parcels of 4 acres or less are subject to the following sanitary or nuisance regulations (note: parcels 4+ acres are exempt from the below):
    - Animal droppings or manure shall be removed from pens/enclosures at least weekly.
    - Droppings or manure shall not be stored on a property, unless used for fertilizer and shall not create a nuisance.

- Adequate fly-tight containers, approved by the County or City, shall be used to store droppings or manure, unless the droppings or manure are removed at least weekly.
- Water and feed troughs shall be water tight and provide adequate water for all animals on a parcel.
- Feeding of vegetables or meat waste or garbage shall only be done in containers or on an impervious platform.

**City of Prescott Valley:** Generally, Prescott Valley regulates the keeping of livestock and poultry as a permitted use within all zoning district.

Livestock is defined as *“horses, ponies, mules, cows, goats, sheep, llamas, any other large animals, poultry, chinchillas, turkeys, pheasant, geese, ducks, pigeons or any other fowl, birds or rodents that are customarily raised for food, profit or pleasure.”*

Additionally, in another location in the Prescott Valley Ordinance, livestock is defined as *“any horse, colt, mule, donkey, burro, ox, bull, cow, calf, hog, pig, sheep or goat.”*

- Minimum 1-acre lot size is required for keeping livestock, except in the Agricultural District.
- Where allowed, livestock are limited to two (2) animals per acre (this previously included chickens and rabbits).
- Increased numbers of livestock are allowed by 1-acre increments, allowing two (2) additional animals per acre.
- Note: Agricultural District requires acreage of at least 10 acres and is devoted to growing of crops, ranching-grazing and other agricultural endeavors. If/when grazing livestock, then a minimum carrying capacity for 40-animals is required.
  - Chickens and rabbits, up to 10 animals, are permitted on all residential lots. However, they are required to be caged or contained; no at-large roaming is permitted. Note: this provision was only recently adopted, in April of 2023, via Ordinance 2023-919. Until this recent provision, chickens and rabbits were limited to 2 animals per acre along with all other livestock.
- There are no provisions or permit processes whereby the resident of a parcel less than 1-acre could keep animals, which includes a youth or educational permit process.
- Swine are prohibited.
- Dogs are limited to 4 per residence/parcel.

**Comparison of the City of Prescott Valley with Town of Camp Verde:** Prescott Valley is generally more restrictive than and the Town of Camp Verde

- Prescott Valley requires 1-acre parcels for the keeping of both livestock and poultry (other than chickens or rabbits), whereas the Town allows keeping on ½ acre lots.
- Prescott Valley increases the number of livestock in increments of 1 acre, specifically 2 animals per acre, whereas the Town allows for an increase in the number of animals by ¼ acre increments.
- Prescott Valley recently passed a new ordinance whereby chickens and rabbits are now permitted on any residential lot, however, the number of these animals is capped at 10 animals per residence, whereas the Town does not place any limits on these animals.
- Prescott Valley requires poultry and rabbits to be caged or contained within enclosures, whereas the Town ordinance is silent regarding free range roaming of poultry.
- Similar to the Town of Camp Verde, the Prescott Valley Ordinance is silent on roosters; therefore, roosters are permitted within Prescott Valley.
- Prescott Valley has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1 acre, whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Swine are prohibited, whereas the Town allows 1 pig per residence, but requires a minimum of 1 acre.
- Prescott Valley limits dogs to 4 per residence whereas the Town allows up to 6 per residence.



**Wickenburg:** Generally, Wickenburg regulates animals/livestock as a permitted use within residential zoning. One unique aspect of the Wickenburg Ordinance is that it regulates corrals rather than the animals themselves.

Wickenburg ordinance defines livestock as: *Livestock means neat animals, horses, sheep, goats, swine, mules and assess.*

Two additional key definitions for Wickenburg are *Corral* and *Turnout Area*.

*Corral: A pen or enclosure for confining animals not used for riding in.*

*Turnout or Pasture: An enclosed area for the relaxation, exercise and grazing of horses.*

Livestock are only permitted within a residential zone (i.e. prohibited within commercial and industrial zones).

- 1-acre minimum lot size required for livestock.
- Once the 1-acre minimum lot size is met, then additional livestock is unlimited. However, Wickenburg has specific requirements for the size of horse corrals (see below) which appear to be de facto limitations. However, please note that the corral size limits are only for horses (does not include other livestock such as cows, goats, and sheep.).
  - 1,200 SF of corral is required for each horse, or if the parcel has a “*Turnout or Pasture*” which is directly accessible to the corral, then a corral may be 400 SF corral for each horse.
- Corrals and customary Accessory Buildings/Structures for the keeping of horses, in compliance with the following:
  - Corrals shall not be located in any portion of the front yard, except on properties consisting of two (2) or more acres.
  - Corrals shall be set back from all lot lines a distance of not less than 4’. If the horse property is contiguous to other horse property on the sides and rear, the setbacks for the horse corral, arena, turnout and/or pasture are permitted to be a minimum of two feet.
  - The corral area shall contain at least twelve hundred (1,200) square feet of area for each horse kept therein. Should the corral area have direct access to a turnout area, the corral area shall contain a minimal of four hundred (400) square feet.
- Chickens are unregulated; no special provisions other than a prohibition on commercial chicken farms (see below).
- There are no provisions nor permit process whereby the resident of a parcel less than 1 acre could keep animals, which includes a youth or educational permit process.
- No limit on dogs per residence/parcel, however, a commercial kennel license is required for 5 or more dogs.

- Wickenburg has a prohibition regarding commercial animal operations, specifically: *Maintenance of any dairy, dairy herd, cattle feed pens, cattle feed lots, pigs, swine, pig sties, goats, roosters, commercial rabbit hutches or farms or commercial chicken farms is hereby declared to be a nuisance.*

Anecdotal information from Wickenburg Community Development staff – Wickenburg Council is getting some pressure to update the Town’s Ordinance regarding animals in order to be more restrictive. Wickenburg is currently in process to update both the General Plan and Town Ordinances, anticipated completion for both updates is 12-18 months. As can be seen above, there are significant grey areas within Wickenburg Ordinance as there are specific corral size limits for horses, but not for other livestock.

**Comparison of Wickenburg with the Town of Camp Verde:** Generally, Wickenburg is a mixture of being somewhat more restrictive on where livestock may be kept – i.e. only in residential zones with 1-acre, or larger, parcels, but less restrictive on the number of animals which may be kept once the minimum acreage is achieved. Additionally, Wickenburg has specific corral specifications which may be a limiting factor for the number of horses. However, this corral section appears to only deal with horses, rather than any other type of livestock.

- Wickenburg requires a 1-acre minimum to keep livestock, whereas the Town allows livestock on a ½-acre minimum/
- Wickenburg only permits livestock animals within residential zoning, whereas the Town permits livestock and chickens on a Town-wide basis.
- Wickenburg does not limit the number of livestock animals on parcels over 1-acre in size, whereas the Town limits the number of animals via the type of animal as well as the size of the parcel through the animal count point chart.
- Swine are unlimited as a non-commercial animal on residential parcels over 1 acre, whereas the Town limits swine to 1 animal per residence and requires a 1-acre minimum size lot.
- Wickenburg does not regulate chickens other than no commercial chicken farms, similarly to the Town of Camp Verde which also does not limit poultry within the Town.
- Roosters are prohibited in Wickenburg; whereas the Town permits them;
- Wickenburg has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1-acre; whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Wickenburg does not limit the number of dogs, whereas the Town limits dogs to 6 per residence. However, Wickenburg requires a commercial kennel license for the keeping of 4 or more dogs.

**Payson (Gila County)**: Generally, Payson regulates the keeping of livestock, including poultry, by zoning districts. Keeping livestock is considered a permitted accessory use within all residential districts. Livestock and poultry are not permitted within commercial districts and require a conditional use permit for industrial zones.

Livestock is defined within the Payson Ordinance as *“Neat animals, horses, sheep, goats, swine, mules, assess and llamas.”* Note: A “neat animal” is any animal within the bovine genus, or cows, oxen and/or bison, etc.

Poultry: *Domesticated birds, which include chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guinea fowl, pigeons, and pheasants.*

Residential Zoning Districts and M2: Generally, livestock are a permitted accessory use per the following:

- Minimum 1 acre is required to keep livestock.
- Two (2) head of livestock and roosters may be kept on the 1<sup>st</sup> acre.
- Number of livestock may increase 1 head per ½ acre.
- Poultry hens are permitted without additional permits in R1 Zones, up to 10 animals per residence;
  - Poultry shall be at least 25’ from any boundary line,
  - Shall not be kept in a front yard, and
  - Shall be kept within a henhouse or enclosure during non-daylight hours.
  - Poultry within all other residential zones and M2 districts requires a zoning permit which is currently \$100.
- Roosters are prohibited.
- Swine are prohibited, however pot-bellied pigs are permitted under the following conditions;
  - Shall be registered and licensed by the Town of Payson,
  - Shall not exceed 100 pounds,
  - Limited three (3) per household, and
  - Shall not be permitted to roam at large, but shall be maintained within an enclosure.
- Livestock within an Industrial zone may only be permitted via a conditional use permit.
- Livestock within M1 zones are prohibited.
- Payson has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1-acre whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Dogs are limited 4 dogs per residence/parcel.

**Comparison of Payson with the Town of Camp Verde:** Payson is generally more restrictive than the Town.

- Payson requires a minimum of 1 acre to keep livestock and poultry, whereas the Town allows livestock on ½ acre parcels.
- Payson increases the number of livestock in increments of 1 animal per ½ acre, whereas the Town allows the increase to the number of animals by ¼ acre increments.
- Payson limits the unpermitted keeping of livestock and poultry to R1 and R3 zoning districts, whereas the Town of Camp Verde permits the keeping of livestock as a permitted use for the entire Town (regardless of zoning district).
- Payson requires special permits for the keeping of pot-bellied pigs and livestock within Industrial Zones as well as strictly prohibits livestock within Commercial Zoning Districts, whereas the Town allows livestock in all zones on a Town-wide basis.
- Poultry are limited to parcels 1 acre or larger in size, and only allowed 10 hens per residence, whereas the Town allows unlimited poultry (including roosters) throughout the Town.
- Payson has no provision to permit or allow the keeping of animals on any parcel less than 1 acre; whereas the Town has a Youth permit process which allows the keeping of animals on any size parcel as long as the youth are part of a bonified program such as FFA or 4-H.
- Payson limits dogs to 4 per household; whereas the Town allows up to 6 per household.

**Town of Queen Creek:** Queen Creek regulates the keeping of animals and livestock as an accessory use within specified zoning districts. Generally, livestock are permitted as an accessory use within residential zoning districts of 0.8 acres (35,000SF) or larger. In all other districts, “*agricultural uses,*” which includes keeping of agricultural animals, are either prohibited or allowed only by a conditional use permits.

- Minimum of 0.8 acre lot or parcel size required to keep livestock animals;
- Livestock is permitted within residential zoning only; livestock are either prohibited or allowed only by a conditional use permit in all other zoning districts;
- Swine are prohibited, unless part of an educational program such as FFA or 4H;
- Dogs are not limited by number;
- Chickens are regulated the same as other livestock and are limited by “animal unit” which is defined below:

*ANIMALS, AGRICULTURAL. The following animals (also known as livestock) and fowl are considered accessory to an agricultural or residential use, whether used for personal enjoyment or for commercial purposes: horses, oxen, donkeys, mules, burros, sheep, cattle, rabbits, chickens, ducks, geese, goats, ostrich, emu or rhea, alpaca, llama or similar animals or fowl (excluding pea fowl).*

*ANIMALS, HOUSEHOLD PETS. Those animals which are commonly kept as pets: dogs, cats, fish, small birds (e.g. parakeets, parrots), rodents (e.g. mice, rats), and reptiles (non- poisonous snakes, lizards or similar animals).*

*ANIMALS, LIVESTOCK, LARGE. Cattle, oxen, horses, mules, donkeys, alpaca, llama, or similar animals. One (1) large livestock animal is equivalent to one (1) animal unit.*

*ANIMALS, LIVESTOCK, MEDIUM. Sheep, goats or other similar animals (swine are only permitted as an educational activity as described in Section 6.2F). Five (5) medium livestock animals are equivalent to one (1) animal unit.*

*ANIMALS, LIVESTOCK/FOWL, SMALL. Rabbits, ducks, chickens, geese or similar animals or fowl (excluding pea fowl). Ten (10) small livestock or fowl is equivalent to one (1) animal unit.*

*ANIMAL UNIT. Represents the unit of measurement utilized as the basis for determining the number of agricultural animals permitted in residential districts on lots 35,000 square feet and larger. See Article 6.2 Animal Regulations for additional information.*

Similar to the Town of Camp Verde “Animal Count” chart, the Town of Queen Creek utilizes an “Animal Unit” chart as their system of regulating the number and type of animals per parcel or lot size. See below chart:

Square Footage Of Residential Lot	Number of Animal Units Permitted
35,000 sf to 39,999 sf	2
40,000 sf to 43559 sf	3
43,560 sf and larger*	4
<i>Exceptions:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One (1) additional animal unit permitted per 30,000 sf in excess of one (1) acre (43,560 sf).</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offspring (under the age of six (6) months) of animals on-site, do not count towards the number of permitted animals units.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals used for educational purposes as stated in Subsection F do not count towards the number of permitted animal units.</li> </ul>	

*One (1) animal unit shall consist of the following:*

- One (1) large livestock animal (weaned beef animal over six (6) months of age, horse, llama, alpaca, mule, burro, cattle, oxen, donkeys, ostrich or similar animals). Swine are only permitted as part of an educational project as stated in Section 6.2 of this Ordinance) or;
- Five (5) medium livestock animals (goats, sheep, or similar animals) or;
- Ten (10) small livestock animals (rabbits, ducks, chickens, geese, fowl (excluding pea fowl) or similar animals. Roosters are only permitted on lots one (1) acre and larger.

*Chickens in smaller lot residential zoning districts:*

*On each lot that is at least 5,000 square feet and less than 10,000 square feet in area, up to five (5) total chickens are permitted.*

*On each lot that is at least 10,000 square feet and less than 35,000 square feet in area, up to ten (10) total chickens are permitted.*

*Aviaries (i.e. chicken coops) shall be located within the building envelope or the rear one-half of the lot. If located within the rear one-half of the lot, the aviary shall be a*

*minimum of five (5) feet from any property line. All aviaries shall be no taller than six (6) feet in height and screened*

**Comparison of Queen Creek with the Town of Camp Verde:** Queen Creek is significantly more restrictive than the Town.

Where the keeping of livestock animals is permitted, Queen Creek is very similar to the Town of Camp Verde. However, Queen Creek is more restrictive due to the fact Queen Creek limits the keeping of livestock to parcels 0.8 acres and larger as well as limiting livestock only to residential zones.

- 0.8-acre minimum lot or parcel size to keep livestock, whereas Town allows on ½-acre and greater.
- Number of livestock animals increases via “*one animal unit*” per 30,000SF (0.7 acre) on parcels of 1-acre or more in size (see chart above for definition of *animal unit*) which is similar to the Town’s animal point system.
- Queen Creek restricts the keeping of livestock to residential districts only; commercial and industrial zones are either outright prohibited or permitted only with a conditional use permit; whereas the Town allows livestock within all zones of the Town.
- Queen Creek only permits chickens within residential zones, whereas the Town allows them throughout the Town with unlimited quantity. See below for Queen Creek restrictions or limits for the keeping chickens;
  - Requires a minimum of 5,000SF (0.1 acre) in order to keep chickens. Lots 5,000-10,000 SF (0.1 - 0.23 acre) are restricted to no more than 5 chickens.
  - Lots 10,001-35,000 SF (0.1-0.8 acre) are restricted to no more than 10 chickens.
  - Roosters are prohibited, while Camp Verde allows unrestricted:
    - Queen Creek requires chickens be kept within enclosures (i.e. aviaries), shall only be allowed in the rear of a yard,
    - Shall be at least 5-feet from a property lime; and
    - Shall be screened via a 6-foot fence whereas the Town allows open ranging of all poultry.
- Similar to the Town of Camp Verde, Queen Creek has provisions for the keeping of livestock on less than 0.8 acres (with a bonified youth permit).
- Queen Creek does not limit the number of dogs; whereas the Town limits dogs to 6-per residence.



Attachment A  
Section 305, Animals  
Town of Camp Verde  
Planning and Zoning Ordinance

## SECTION 305 - ANIMALS

Keeping of farm animals in appropriate locations and circumstances is regarded as being consistent with the Town's rural character. However, the number, size, type or manner in which animals are maintained on any parcel shall not impair the enjoyment or use of nearby properties or violate other legal restrictions to which the properties are subject. Any lot where farm livestock are kept must be not less than one-half acre (21,780 sq ft.) in area.

Fowl (chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, and peacocks) rabbits, and guinea pigs, which are cared for the by the property owner or occupant as prescribed in Section 305.C.3, are not limited to a maximum number of animals.

### A. Allowed Livestock

Any of the species listed below which are cared for by the property owner or occupant according to the following Animal Points. All livestock activity within the Town limits will be considered an accessory use to the principal use on any parcel except in the Agriculture District.

1. Lots of one-half acre to one acre in area may maintain animals totaling up to 24 points as set forth below.
2. Lots of one acre or more may increase the allowable number of points by an increment of six points for each additional, contiguous quarter acre.

### B. Animal Points Allowed per Acreage

The allowable type and number of animals permitted on a particular property is computed by the following allotment table:

SPECIES (or associated types)	POINTS	SPECIES (or associated types)	POINTS
Alpacas:	3 POINTS	Miniature horses, Ponies and Sicilian donkeys:	6 POINTS
Emus:	3 POINTS	Ostriches:	6 POINTS
Pygmy goats:	3 POINTS	Cattle:	12 POINTS
Sheep, Goats:	4 POINTS	Domestic deer:	12 POINTS
Llamas:	6 POINTS	Horses, Mules, and Donkeys	12 POINTS

1. **Prohibited Livestock:** Swine are prohibited within residential zones, unless excepted under paragraph 2b.
2. **Exceptions:**
  - a. Young nursing animals of allowed adult livestock are not counted.
  - b. Swine may only be raised on property of an acre or more under the following conditions:
    - 1) One pet or butcher pig per parcel.

- 2) Additional Swine, breeding or reproduction stock requires Use Permit approval in accordance with Section 305.C.1.
- 3) All pens containing swine must meet the setback requirements for the zoning district.
- 4) Additional 4-H or FFA swine will require a Temporary Youth Organization Use Permit as set forth in Section 305.C.2.d below.

### **C. Additional Requirements for Keeping Animals**

1. **Use Permit:** A Use Permit is required for any of the following:
  - a. Any Commercial Livestock Activity that exceeds allowed animal points and defined as raising livestock for sale for pecuniary gain and selling more than one litter, or more than ten animals in one year, other than horses and cattle.
  - b. Any Livestock Breeding Activity as defined as an ongoing breeding project that involves two or more reproducing adults, other than horses or cattle. (Swine breeding is addressed in paragraph B.2.c).
2. **Temporary Youth Organization Use Permit:** The Community Development Director may issue a Temporary Use Permit allowing the following livestock under the following conditions and using reasonable discretion:
  - a. Supervised youth livestock market project of one market animal conducted on property less than one-half acre, or for one swine on less than one acre, for a period specified by a start and stop date not to exceed ten months in duration.
    - 1) One additional market swine project will be allowed with each additional one-half acre, not to exceed 5 swine per parcel.
    - 2) Swine will be restricted to one market swine project per youth organization member.
  - b. Supervised youth livestock market project that exceeds the number of animals allowed according to the animal points on property greater than one-half acre in size.
  - c. An application for the Temporary Use Permit shall be submitted to the Community Development Director, or designee, who shall determine that the application meets the criteria set forth in this Zoning Ordinance. There will be no charge for the Permit.
  - d. An application shall bear the signature of the local livestock Youth Advisor acknowledging that the project is a valid youth project, and the signature of at least one parent or guardian, as well as the signature of the youth acknowledging and accepting complete responsibility for the project.
  - e. If the Youth Advisor agrees in writing to accept all enforcement responsibility for his/her members, no review will be required by the Community Development Director.
    - 1) In September the Youth Advisor must register with the Community

Development Department agreeing to this commitment.

- 2) The Youth Advisor will provide the following documentation to the Community Development Department by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - a) A roster with the name, address and project type for all active members under their supervision.
    - b) Property owner's permission to conduct livestock activity on the subject parcel.
    - c) Parent's statement of responsibility.
    - d) Contact information for the Youth Advisor.
  - 3) A sign must be posted on the property where the livestock activity will be conducted, indicating membership in the Youth Livestock Organization, the year in which the project is conducted, and number of livestock.
  - 4) If complaints are received and compliance cannot be met, the Youth Advisor will notify the Code Enforcement Official and will support any action taken by the Town.
  - 5) The ultimate decision on whether the activity is in compliance with the current Town Code will be made by the Community Development Director or designee.
- f. A decision of the Community Development Director or designee may be appealed to the Town Council pursuant to Section 602 B.
- 1) The livestock market projects shall be of a limited duration specified by a start and stop date not to exceed ten months in one calendar year, allowing for care, feeding and grooming of such animals to be shown and/or sold annually at such events such as the Verde Valley, Yavapai County and/or Arizona State Fair.
  - 2) In the instance that a prize-winning animal is to be entered into competition more than one time, an extension of the permit may be applied for, and after evaluation by the Community Development Department, conditionally extended.

### 3. **Maintenance of Livestock Facilities.**

- a. All structures and pens for animals shall be maintained in a clean and slightly manner so as not to be a nuisance to their neighbors.
- b. Stables, barns, or structures used for housing or feeding animals must observe the same setbacks or yards as the dwelling unit.
  - 1) Exception: Lots directly abutting National Forest Service Land, Trust Land and BLM Land in the rear and/or lots directly abutting Designated Open Space may encroach in the rear setback requirement. The distance from the rear setback is UUtwiceUU the height of the structure. The side setback and front setback must be

maintained in all instances.

- c. Where the keeping of such animals becomes a nuisance, as defined in the current Town Code, the Code Enforcement Official shall have the authority to determine a reduction in the number of and/or removal of the animals as necessary to comply with the current Town Code.
- d. The Code Enforcement Official has the authority to determine that removal of the animals in circumstances where they constitute a health or safety hazard to human beings is necessary to comply with the current Town Code.