

Land Development Regulations
Chapter 3-9. Zoning
Article III. Special Regulations

Sec. 3-9-69

Sec. 3-9-69. - Conditional uses and structures.

(g) Residential uses.

(14) Accessory Chicken Keeping (RSF)

- (a) This use must be accessory to a properly permitted residential use and structure.
- (b) No more than four hens (Gallus Gallus Domesticus) on a lot no smaller than 10,000 sq. ft. (or any lot legally created prior to October 22, 1992), or six hens on lots 20,000 sq. ft. or greater, may be kept in the rear yard. The rear yard of the lot must be fully fenced or otherwise enclosed.
- (c) Roosters are prohibited.
- (d) The killing and dressing of chickens is prohibited.
- (e) The hens shall be provided with a covered enclosure (i.e. "hen house/coop") and must always be kept in the covered enclosure or within a fenced enclosure if outside for exercise. If the enclosure is not readily movable for a storm event, it must be properly permitted and secured. Hens must be secured within the henhouse/coop during non-daylight hours. All areas where the chickens are located, including the coop, must be shielded on all sides by a fully opaque, six-foot-high, fence or wall. The fully-opaque, six-foot high fence or wall may enclose all or a portion of the yard so long as the coop and any outdoor area is fully enclosed.
- (f) The space per hen in the henhouse/coop shall not be less than four square feet per hen.
- (g) No covered enclosure or fenced enclosure shall be located in the front yard, nor shall the henhouse/coop be closer than the required accessory structure yard setbacks to any property line of an adjacent property. Odors from hens, hen manure, or other hen related substances shall not be detectable at the property boundaries.
- (h) All enclosures for the keeping of hens shall be so constructed and maintained as to prevent rodents or other pests from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of, the enclosure. The henhouse/coop must contain a barrier or barriers to prevent entry of rodents, wild birds, and predators, including coyotes, bobcats, dogs and cats. Enclosures shall be kept in neat condition, including provision of clean, dry bedding materials and regular removal of waste materials. All manure not used for composting or fertilizing shall be removed promptly.
- (i) All feed and other items associated with the keeping of hens that are likely to attract, or to become infested with, or infected by rodents or other pests shall be kept in a secure location, container, or otherwise protected to prevent rodents and other pests from gaining access to or coming into contact with them.
- (j) The sale of eggs or any other hen products generated in a residential single-family district must be sold in a zoning district which permits the retail sale of such items.
- (k) No animal that kills a hen will, for that reason alone, be considered a dangerous or aggressive animal.

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- (l) Chickens that are no longer wanted by their owners shall not be taken to Animal Control, nor shall they be released.
- (m) The owners of the chicken(s) must register their location with the department responsible with enforcement of the Land Development Regulations.
- (n) The owners of the chicken(s) and any person living in the household who will be responsible for caring for the chicken(s) must take the "Chickens In Your Backyard" course provided by the UF IFAS Extension Office.
- (o) County staff shall have the right to conduct an inspection to ensure compliance with these regulations.