

**The following is a Zoning Ordinance amendment that has been adopted. Please note this change in your ordinance book.**

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## **CHAPTER 3**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### ***Section 328-Keeping of Animals***

- A.** The keeping of household pets, including dogs, cats, fish, birds, hamsters, and other animals which are generally regarded as household pets is permitted as an accessory use in any residential district and in the Agricultural District if not kept for a commercial or business use or purpose. However, no such pet shall be kept or maintained in such a fashion as to constitute a nuisance, safety, or health hazard to the owners or occupants of adjacent properties. Furthermore, the keeping of such pets may also be subject to the regulations of other applicable Chester Township ordinances.
- B.** The keeping of animals not normally considered household pets, including, but not limited to, horses, pigs, sheep, cattle and chicken hens shall be permitted with the following restrictions, except in connection with commercial agricultural activities subject to the Michigan Right to Farm Act to the extent covered by, and being conducted in compliance with, applicable Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices:
- 1.** In the Low Density Residential Zoning District and the Lake Residential Zoning District:
    - a.** A minimum lot size of two (2) acres shall be required for the first animal unit and one (1) acre shall be required for each additional animal unit. A maximum of five (5) animal units shall be permitted per lot.
    - b.** A combination of animals up to an equivalent of the animal units permitted for the lot size shall be allowed.
    - c.** All accessory buildings used to house, feed, or shelter the animals and all grazing or exercise areas shall not be located within sixty (60) feet of any property line.
    - d.** All accessory buildings used to house, feed, or shelter the animals and all grazing or exercise areas shall not be located within one hundred (100) feet of any creek, stream, lake, major drain, or other body of water.
    - e.** Roosters shall not be permitted.
  - 2.** In the Low Density Residential Zoning District and the High Density Residential Zoning District:
    - a.** On lots of two (2) acres or more in area, the keeping of horses, pigs, sheep, cattle, chicken hens or other similar animals shall be permitted as provided in Section 328B1 of this Ordinance.

- b.** On lots of less than two (2) acres in area, the keeping of horses, pigs, sheep, cattle or other similar animals are prohibited. The keeping of chicken hens shall be limited to no more than six (6) animals.
  - (1)** All accessory buildings used to house, feed, or shelter the animals and all grazing or exercise areas shall not be located within ten (10) feet of any property line.
  - (2)** All accessory buildings used to house, feed, or shelter the animals and all grazing or exercise areas shall not be located within one hundred (100) feet of any creek, stream, lake, major drain, or other body of water.
  - (3)** Where chicken hens are kept or allowed outside, a fence of such construction as to keep said animals from leaving the lot shall be provided and regularly maintained.
  - (4)** Roosters shall not be permitted.
- C.** For this Section 328B1, one (1) animal unit shall be equal to either:
  - 1.** One (1) horse, donkey, mule, cow, pig, sheep, goat, llama, alpaca, emu, ostrich, or similar animal; or
  - 2.** Six (6) chicken hens other than those listed above.