

19.39.020 Animals allowed in residential zones and agricultural zones.

A. Large Animals.

1. Limited raising or keeping of large livestock as defined in this section:

- a. Horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, burros and similar animals;
- b. Dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo and similar animals;
- c. Sheep, goats and similar animals.

2. A maximum of two animal units (one animal unit equals approximately one thousand pounds of animal weight) may be kept per one acre gross pasture area. Gross pasture area is that portion of a lot which is fenced and used solely for the grazing and keeping of large livestock. The minimum gross pasture area for keeping large livestock is one acre. The maximum number of large animals per acre is five. The following are examples of animal unit usages:

- a. i. One horse and one cow per gross pasture acre;
- ii. Two cows or two horses per gross pasture acre;
- iii. Five sheep or five goats per gross pasture acre;
- iv. Three sheep and two goats per gross pasture acre.

b. If any animal born on the premises causes the maximum allowable number of animals to be exceeded, adjustments must be made to bring the total number of animals into compliance with this section within the corresponding time limits specified below:

- i. Horses and similar animals: one year from date of birth;
- ii. Cattle and similar animals: one year from the date of birth;
- iii. Sheep, goats and similar animals: six months from the date of birth.

c. If any additional animal(s) are acquired by means other than by birth, and cause the maximum allowable number of animals to be exceeded, adjustments must be made to bring the total number of animals into compliance with this section within thirty days after placement of the additional animals on the premises.

d. In addition, a fence must be constructed prior to the acquisition of any large livestock to ensure containment of the livestock on the premises.

B. Small Animals.

1. Limited raising or keeping of small livestock as defined below:

a. Rabbits and similar animals;

b. Chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys and other similar fowl.

2. A maximum of twelve animals or fowl, as defined above, may be raised or kept per one acre gross lot area.

3. In addition, a shed, coop, hutch or similar containment structure must be constructed prior to the acquisition of any small livestock to ensure containment of the livestock on the premises.

C. The intent of these agricultural provisions are not to preclude the above stated permitted accessory uses from being allowed as principal permitted uses.

1. The raising and keeping of household pets;

2. Home occupations.

For the Full Code that covers Agricultural Animals please see Title 19 Section 39 of the Lynden Municipal Code