



## **Household Pet and Livestock Regulations in Residential Zoning Districts**

The Unified Development Ordinance governs the definitions and zoning requirements for the keeping in captivity of Household Pets, Livestock and certain Wild Animals.

The UDO defines and regulates the raising and keeping of each class of animals as follows:

### **Pet (Household Pet)**

#### **Definition:**

A domesticated animal such as a dog, cat, common cage bird, rodent, rabbit, ferret, or aquarium-kept fish, reptile, amphibian or turtle, which is traditionally kept in the home for companionship or pleasure rather than for utility or commercial purposes. This term specifically excludes livestock and wild animals.

#### **Zoning Requirements:**

Household pets may be kept by their owner in any residential zoning district, and are not specifically limited in their number so long as the residence is kept safe and sanitary. Kennels and Pet Boarding (boarding, breeding and training) are considered commercial activities and are restricted to Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial zoning categories.

### **Livestock**

#### **Definition:**

Cattle, horses, donkeys, mules, goats, sheep, swine and other hoofed animals; poultry, ducks, geese, pigeons, peacocks and other live fowl; and fur or hide-bearing animals; whether owned or kept for pleasure, utility or sale. The term livestock shall not include small species of pigs, cage birds or rabbits kept within a dwelling as a household pet.

#### **Zoning Requirements:**

Livestock and honeybees may be kept for commercial purposes or for personal pleasure or utility in the agricultural (RA-200) zoning district. Livestock may also be kept for non-commercial purposes in certain single-family residential zoning districts (R-LL, R-100 and R-75), provided the lot or parcel is at least three-acres in size, is the livestock owner's residence, and all animal quarters must be located no closer than 100 feet to any property line.

### **Wild Animal**

#### **Definition:**

Any living member of the animal kingdom, excluding livestock and household pets.

#### **Zoning Requirements:**

The raising and keeping of wild animals is restricted to the agricultural (RA-200) zoning district. Anyone who keeps a wild or exotic animal must obtain any and all necessary permits and meet all requirements of the State of Georgia for such activity, and all animal quarters must be located no closer than 200 feet to any property line.