

**Small Animal Husbandry Policies and Codes**  
 REDMOND PLANNING COMMISSION  
 September 21, 2011

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**Purpose**

Planning Commission's review of recommended amendments to:

1. Comprehensive Plan
2. Zoning Code
3. Municipal Code

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**Proposed Review Schedule**

Planning Commission	Date
Briefing and discussion of amendment process	August 24
<b>First study session to discuss proposed amendments and identify major issues</b>	<b>September 21</b>
Public hearing and discussion of public input Continued discussion and preliminary resolution of major issues	October 12
Discussion of additional public input Resolution of Small Animal Husbandry policies and codes	October 19
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**Basis...**

Seattle Tith's Chickens Coop and Urban Farm Tour Inspires Urban Farmers

2009: FDA's Final Rule for Prevention of SE in Shell Eggs During Production, Transportation, and Storage

Monday, September 13 - O'Show Center Farm Walk: The Journey from Farm to Education Center

Redmond GOAD - Surviving Season: Linking People to Resources

Fifty Hosts Show Off Backyard Animals and Gardens on July 9

Sustainable Cities

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**Regional Codes**

Municipality	Lot Size	Setbacks from Property Line	Number Allowed
Bothell			3
Burien	Half acre	20 feet from property line	3
Federal Way	35,000 sq. ft.		4
Kent	5,000 sq. ft.	10 feet from property line	3
Lake Forest Park	20,000 sq. ft. 5,000 more sq. feet for each additional	25 feet from property line	1 per 20,000 sq. feet
Mukilteo		15 feet from property line 25 feet from dwelling unit	2-4 (less than 2 prohibited)
Renton	6,000 sq. ft.	10 feet from property line	3
Seattle	No minimum	10 feet away dwelling unit	8
Tacoma	No minimum	50 feet from dwelling unit	No limit
Tukwila	10,000 sq. ft.	20 feet from property line 55 feet from dwelling unit,	12
King County	20,000 sq. ft. 35,000 sq. ft.		3 5

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**Regional Experience**

City	Experience	Notes
Seattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise</li> <li>Odor is not common</li> <li>Slight increase in rodent complaints related to chickens</li> <li>Chickens at large</li> </ul>	No significant increase in complaints since ordinance change
Bellevue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise</li> <li>Chicken feed attracting rats</li> <li>Chickens at large</li> </ul>	35 complaints in past 13 years -3 complaints per year
Kirkland		Since Kirkland has such strict rules, not many complaints.
Sammamish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise</li> <li>Chickens at large</li> </ul>	Many complaints on noise since roosters are still legal. Proposed banning roosters, but citizens were against banning roosters.
Woodinville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise</li> </ul>	Some informal complaints, no code enforcement cases in past 3 years
Bothell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise (roosters)</li> <li>Chicken coops too close to property line</li> </ul>	-1 complaint per year
Issaquah		No complaints Resource Conservation office sponsors the Seattle Tith
Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Odor</li> <li>Chickens at large</li> <li>Noise (rooster) about once a month</li> </ul>	

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**Code Enforcement**

<b>Redmond</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zoning and land use regulations:</li><li>• Zoning regulations based on County recommendations so as to ensure the health and safety of animals</li><li>• Land use regulations also attempt to minimize the impact of animals on neighboring properties</li><li>• City does not have any animal control or licensing officers on staff</li></ul>	<b>King County</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If zoning violation is not resolved and requires additional "animal control" in order to obtain compliance or ensure the health and safety of the animals, the City then contacts King County so that they can follow up</li><li>• Barking, dangerous dogs, and any animal that is running at large is reported to King County</li></ul>
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**King County**

- Licensing
  - Eligibility and issuance
  - Notice and orders
  - Appeals
- Work with cities to update codes
- Shelter and rescue operations
- Disaster and emergency preparedness
- Promoting vaccinations

*WA State (WAC) regulates handling of deceased and/or diseased animals and addresses communicable diseases and groundwater.*

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**Flock management**

1. Online network
2. Offer for sale
3. Animal shelter
4. Poultry preserve
5. Limited slaughter

\*\*Also, future assistance to foster a community network

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### Noise

Noise	Decibels
Whisper Quiet Library	30dB
Normal conversation (3-5')	60-70dB
Telephone dial tone	80dB
City Traffic (inside car)	85dB
Train whistle at 500'	90dB
Truck Traffic	

Hen →

Barking dog / rooster →

- Poultry "sleep" generally from dusk to dawn.  
For example, some sleep from 4pm to 6am  
Some sleep from 8pm to 8am
- Sleep times depend on the season and light

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### Protection

"Lock up your chickens at night. Many tame as well as wild animals will chase and kill chickens."

*...Care of a Small Flock of Chickens, Daniel K. Andrews, Extension Poultry Scientist, EB0971, May 8/June 30, 1914.*

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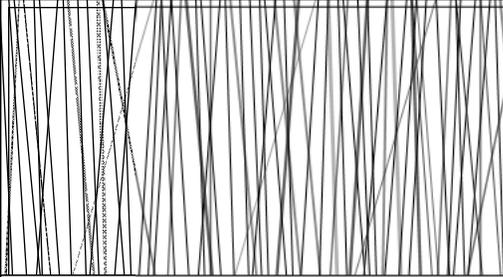
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### Recommendation



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**Chicken:**

**Female chicken**  
**Hen**  
**Pullet**

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**No roosters on residential lots less than half acre in size**

*no change to current code*

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**Zone-based**

- In single-family residential zones
 

Zone	Average minimum lot size	Allowed
RA-5	4.5 acres	8
R-1	35,000 sqft	8
R-2	18,000 sqft	8
R-3	12,000 sqft	8
R-4	7,000 sqft	7
R-5	5,500 sqft	6
R-6	4,000 sqft	4
R-8	3,000 sqft	3
- 1 chicken
  - Per 1,000 sq ft of
    - Allowed average minimum lot size
- No more than 8 chickens

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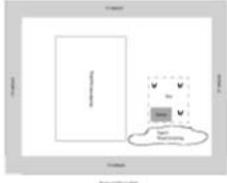
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**Shelter and Run**

- No less than 15' away from all property lines
- Screening and siting to
  - Prevent visibility from
    - Adjoining street
    - Adjoining access corridors



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**Food and Waste**

**Food**



**Waste**



Outside of setback

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**Slaughter**

- 1 within 24-hour period
- More than 1 in 24-hours:
  - Mobile slaughter unit
  - Veterinary service
  - Outside of residential zones

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Review schedule

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**Questions and Additional Discussion Topics**

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