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FAQ

(Frequently Asked Questions)

Accessory Keeping of Animals FAQ's

Q. How many horses am I allowed to keep on my property?

A. Pursuant to Chapter 225 Article IV (Use Regulations) in the Town of Eden Code, within the conservation Agricultural, Rural Residential, Suburban Residential, Hamlet Residential and Office Business zoning districts, Paragraph C identifies allowable Accessory Uses, including the keeping of animals as follows: no persons shall keep more than three dogs four months of age and older on any premises in the Town of Eden. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a person residing on and having control of premises which are at least five acres in area may keep on such premises up to six dogs four months of age or older.; ***not more than four horses over six months old***; not more than 10 fowl; and not more than two of any other species of animal. No animal shall be maintained within 75 feet of any plot line except dogs and cats.

Q. Isn't there a "horse per acre" or some other area calculation involved?

A. No, not in the town of Eden; keeping of up to 4 horses as an accessory use is permitted as per the above, without a specific "area" requirement per horse.

Q. How far away does a barn or fenced in area have to be away from my property lines if I want to keep horses

A. As is indicated above, ***no animal shall be maintained within 75 feet of any plot line except dogs and cats.*** This means that any paddock, stable, or fenced in area where the horses are restricted to must be no closer than 75' to side and rear property lines.

Q. Are there exceptions to the limit of four horses?

A. The above regulation applies to properties used, for instance, typically and primarily for residential purposes. However, within the Conservation, Agricultural, Rural Residential and Suburban Residential zoning districts, Paragraph A of Chapter 225 Article IV permits "commercial agriculture operations and accessory uses thereto " including the "keeping, breeding and raising of cattle (including dairies), sheep, goats, pigs and horses and rental of horses, on lots of 20 acres or more." For example, a commercial (for-gain) agricultural operation may have more than 4 horses on a lot of 20 acres or more.

Please note that Chapter 225 of the Town of Eden Code applies in its entirety, and the FAQ series only summarizes or highlights portions of the Town of Eden Code and in all applications the Code must be consulted. The language in the Town Code as may be amended from time to time prevails over the FAQ.