

Sec. 3-9-33. - Residential single-family (RSF).

(f) Special exceptions (S):(For procedure see section 3-9-6.2, special exceptions)

(17) Keeping of hens as accessory to a residential single-family structure, subject to the following standard conditions. The fee for this Special Exception shall be \$440.

(A) No more than four (4) hens on an 80' x 120' lot or six (6) hens on two (2) or more lots may be kept in the rear yard. The rear yard of the lot must be fully fenced or otherwise enclosed.

(B) Roosters are prohibited.

(C) The killing and dressing of chickens is prohibited.

(D) The hens shall be provided with a movable covered enclosure (i.e. "hen house/coop") and must always be kept in the covered enclosure or within a fenced enclosure if outside for exercise. Hens must be secured within the movable henhouse/coop during non-daylight hours.

(E) The space per fowl in the henhouse/coop shall not be less than four (4) square feet per fowl.

(F) No covered enclosure or fenced enclosure shall be located in the front yard, nor shall the henhouse/coop be closer than the required accessory structure yard setbacks to any property line of an adjacent property. Odors from hens, hen manure, or other hen related substances shall not be detectable at the property boundaries.

(G) All enclosures for the keeping of hens shall be so constructed and maintained as to prevent rodents or other pests from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of, the enclosure. The henhouse/coop must contain a barrier or barriers to prevent entry of rodents, wild birds, and predators, including coyotes, bobcats, dogs and cats. Enclosures shall be kept in neat condition, including provision of clean, dry bedding materials and regular removal of waste materials. All manure not used for composting or fertilizing shall be removed promptly.

(H) All feed and other items associated with the keeping of hens that are likely to attract, or to become infested with, or infected by rodents or other pests shall be kept in a secure location, container, or otherwise protected to prevent rodents and other pests from gaining access to or coming into contact with them.

(I) The sale of eggs or any other hen products generated in a residential single-family district must be sold in a zoning district which permits the retail sale of such items.

(J) No animal that kills a hen will, for that reason alone, be considered a dangerous or aggressive animal.

(K) This section applies to the keeping of hens only in a residential single-family district and does not apply to any other animal or fowl.

(L) Chickens that are no longer wanted by their owners shall not be taken to Animal Control, nor shall they be released.

(M) Nothing in this subsection shall affect any HOA association, declarations, or restrictions.

(N) If the Special Exception is approved, the owners of the fowl and any person living in the household must take the "Raising Backyard Chickens for Eggs" course provided by the UF IFAS Extension Office. Written notice of completion of the course within 30 days of passing the course. If written proof is not presented, or the applicant does not pass the course, the Special Exception shall become null and void.