

Chicken Rules Survey

12 Counties (abutting, like and I-4 corridor) and the 6 largest cities in Polk

Quick stats:

- 4 out of 12 counties do not permit chickens in residential districts without public hearing process
- 3 out of 6 cities prohibit chickens
- **Roosters are prohibited in residential** for all 12 counties and all 6 cities
- Hens (female chickens) are typically permitted at a range of 4 to 6 in residential with restrictions (*Bartow was an outlier at 12*)
- Setbacks for penned Hens range from 10' to 50' from property lines and 25' to 50' from offsite residences.
- Minimum lot sizes range from none to 1 acre
- 3 Counties required opaque fences

Table 1

Jurisdiction (Code citation)	Are Chickens Permitted in Residential Districts?	What are the limitations placed on them?	What other livestock types are restricted?
Alachua County <i>Sec. 404.13</i>	Yes	Up to 6 Hens per residence. No Roosters. 50' setback from property all lines.	Horses – 1/ac, 1 ac. min. lot Goats and Sheep – 10/ac, 1 ac. min lot Hogs – 1/ac, 1 ac. min lot Cows – 1.5/ac, 1.5 ac. min lot Pot-bellied Pigs – 0.5/ac, 0.5 ac. min lot
Brevard County <i>Sec. 62-2108</i>	Yes	Up to 4 Hens on lots ½ acre or more . Meet Accessory setbacks No Roosters.	No other livestock on any land except Agricultural zoning.
Duval County <i>Sec. 656.422, 462.901, & 462.902</i>	Yes	Requires a permit. Up to 5 hens, min. 1 acre 5 more for every ½ acre after 1 ac. No Roosters. Accessory setbacks	No other livestock permitted in residential areas. Swine are required to be setback 200 feet from any inhabited dwelling.
Hardee County <i>Sec. 2.09.00</i>	No.	n/a	Allowed in Agricultural (A-1) and Farm Residential (F-R) districts with a 50' setback from any offsite residential structure.
Highlands County <i>Section 12.05.200, 12.05.316</i>	No.	n/a	Livestock and fowl are only permitted in Agricultural (AU) district. In AU district hogs or poultry are not permitted within 100 feet of any dwelling under separate ownership or within 50 feet of residentially zoned property or within 50 feet of any lot line. (except for 4-H, and FFA projects)
Hillsborough County <i>Sec. 6.11.129 Sec. 6.11.13</i>	LUHO Conditional Use	Up to 5 Hens, 10' setback No roosters, capons or cockerels.	No other livestock in residential districts except for Honeybees.
Lake County <i>Sec. 10.01.06</i>	Yes	Up to 5 Chickens, 20' setback Must be fenced or enclosed. No roosters.	Other livestock only permitted in Agriculture (A) and Agricultural Residential (AR) districts.
Manatee County <i>Sec. 2-4-24, 531.1</i>	Yes	Up to 4 chickens. 10' from residential property lines, 25' from residential dwelling No roosters or male chickens.	Minimum two acres and 75' setback for all other livestock.

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		Must be inside enclosure from dusk til dawn, fenced dawn til dusk. Enclosure must provide 4 square feet per chicken.	
Orange County <i>Sec. 38-79 (37)</i>	Conditional Use	IFAS Training Required Site Plan, Coop, Pen Up to 4 Chickens 15' side setback, 10' rear, 6' opaque fence No roosters. Permit is not transferable.	Agricultural property: <5 acres max 30 chickens 5-10 ac 100 chickens >10 unlimited Swine 100' setback from all property lines
Osceola County <i>Sec. 4-30</i>	Yes.	Fenced or cooped. Up to 6 hens. 25' from rear and side lot lines Roosters prohibited in residential districts	1 horse for every undeveloped acre Pot-bellied pigs 100' setback 2 swine for every full acre
Seminole County <i>Sec. 3.6.19</i>	Yes	Up to 6 hens No roosters or male chickens Opaque fence 10' from side and rear, 20 feet from residence	In any residential area, no livestock or fowl, other than backyard chickens in compliance with Section 30.6.19, may be housed or pastured closer than one hundred fifty (150) feet to any lot line nor may any commercial production of any stock, animal, or fowl be permitted.
Volusia County <i>Sec. 72-307</i>	Yes	Up to 5 Chickens No Roosters Min lot size 1/3 ac. 20' setback from all property lines Must be confined	It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, harbor, breed or maintain upon any premises not zoned for agricultural use or otherwise excepted in accordance with section 72-307 or elsewhere within this article, any of the following: Bees, roosters, peacocks, horses, ponies, cattle, goats, pigs, or other livestock, pigeons, ducks, or other fowl.
City of Auburndale <i>Chapter 5 LDR</i>	No.	n/a	All livestock except horses are prohibited in residential and commercial districts. Only allowed in Open Use Agriculture (OUA)
City of Bartow <i>Sec. 14-5</i>	Yes	12 fowl, 10' from property line is less than 40,000 square foot lot. Must be penned at all times. No roosters, cockerels, toms, ganders, etc.	No swine permitted in the city.
Haines City <i>Sec. 5-2, LDR Sec. 5.6.1</i>	Yes, but not really.	Not within 100 yards (300 feet) of another residence.	Livestock permitted only in Agricultural (AG) District but not within 200 feet of a residential district.
City of Lakeland <i>Sec. 10-2</i>	Yes.	50' setback from any residence No roosters within the city	No other livestock within 100' of a residence. No swine permitted in the city except 1 potbellied pig may be kept as a pet.
City of Lake Wales <i>Sec. 6-4</i>	No.	Unless authorized by City Council through adopted Resolution.	No livestock permitted in city except for vet clinics or schools with ag programs.
City of Winter Haven <i>Sec. 21-69</i>	Yes.	Up to 5 , must be penned, Accessory structure setbacks per district apply. Hens only. No roosters.	No other livestock allowed in residential districts only Agricultural (AG) districts.