

Keeping Chickens in the City of Santee



Keeping chickens – hens only – is allowed in single-family zones as shown below:

Residential Zone	Maximum # of chickens	Setbacks (rear and side lot line)
R-2	1 fowl per 2,000 sq. ft.	15'
HL, R-1, R-1A	1 fowl per 2,000 sq. ft.	20'

Contact the Planning Division at (619) 258-4100, extension 152 to determine your zone.

Specific Rules

- a. **No roosters are allowed.**
- b. Chicken Coops
 - Chickens shall be kept in fully enclosed and covered enclosures at all times.
 - Chicken enclosures must comply with setbacks from rear and side property lines.
 - Enclosures must be constructed with rodent-proof and hawk-proof hardwire installed a minimum of 18 inches below grade to avoid entry by digging rodents.
 - Enclosures must be made of all-weather materials with a durable top or cover.
- c. Cleanliness
 - Food shall be kept in durable, rodent-proof containers with tightly fitting covers.
 - Coops and enclosures shall be clean and sanitary.
 - Odor from coops and enclosures shall not be noticeable at the property line.
 - Waste material shall be placed in enclosed containers or bags until removed from the premises or turned under the soil for fertilizer.
 - Dead chickens shall be removed from the property or buried within 24 hours at a depth of at least three feet underground. Dead chickens shall be stored in air-tight containers or bags. Illegal disposal is subject to citation for public nuisance.

For more information, refer to the City of Santee Municipal Code 13.10.030.F3 (Chicken Keeping)