

# ARTICLE 3 – CITYWIDE USE REGULATIONS

## 46 – KEEPING OF ANIMALS

46

### KEEPING OF ANIMALS

#### 46.1 FARM ANIMALS

##### 46.1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this subsection is to regulate the keeping of farm animals in the City of West Haven in order to protect the health, safety, and public welfare of residents of the (community) city and to insure their right of quiet and peaceful enjoyment of their property.

##### 46.1.2 Scope

Farm animals include all those animals traditionally raised on farms or ranches such as but not limited to chickens, geese, ducks, turkeys, hogs, rabbits, cattle, sheep, goats, horses, ponies, donkeys, etc., whether for the residents pleasure or consumption, or for breeding or other commercial purposes. This shall not include animals listed above for which one (1) farm animal less than 100 pounds in weight is kept on the property as a pet.

##### 46.1.3 Health Hazard or Nuisance

A health hazard or nuisance shall include situations of rat harborage, noxious odors, excessive noise, animals running loose and any other situation or nuisance which might be mentioned in the health code, zoning regulation, local ordinance, state statutes or accepted legal interpretation.

##### 46.1.4 Keeping of Farm Animals

The keeping of one or more farm animals whether of one species or more than one species will be permitted in any district provided:

1. The animal or animals are housed overnight in a structure which is a minimum of 100 feet from any dwelling unit.
2. The animal or animals shall be kept a minimum distance of 25 feet from all adjoining property lines and that they shall be prevented from straying onto any street, roadway or adjoining private property;
3. The premises or operation meet all applicable local and state health codes;
4. No nuisance is created or maintained; and
5. Any manure, feces or animal droppings shall be kept in a covered watertight pit or chamber and shall be removed at least once weekly.

#### 46.2 DOG KENNELS

46.2.1 A Dog Kennel may be established only in a commercial or industrial zone by Special Permit issued by the Planning and Zoning Commission under the following conditions:

1. The site shall contain at least two acres.

2. The Site Plan shall be approved by the West Haven Health Department prior to filing for the Special Permit.
3. No more than ten dogs may be permitted in a kennel, except for a period of six months after the birth of a litter.
4. A maintenance program shall be submitted with the application for a special permit which includes provisions for feeding, exercise of the dogs, and removal of fecal matter.
5. The location of any buildings housing dogs or dog runs shall be at least two hundred feet from any existing residential building.
6. The City of West Haven Animal Control Officers shall have the right to inspect and regulate the operation of the kennel.
7. In addition to the normally required items, the Site Plan shall show the location of all buildings housing dogs, exercise runs and fencing.
8. A dog kennel permit may be issued by the West Haven City Clerk for only the following purposes:
  1. Show
  2. Sport
  3. Sale

46.2.2 Existing kennels which have not been granted Special Permits shall not be considered non-conforming uses and any discontinuance or sale of the premises on which such kennel is located shall be considered as abandonment of such use.