

## Swine (Pigs)

It is inappropriate to keep swine (pigs) on a residential property:

Swine must not be kept within 60 metres of a dwelling, school, shop, office, factory, workshop, church, or other place of public worship, public hall, or premises used for manufacture, preparation, or storage of food.

Because swine have potential to create significant odour and waste, Council may serve an order requiring the swine to be kept at a greater distance.



## Other Animals

Subdivision 4 of the Codes SEPP sets out permissible criteria for the construction of aviaries. If you do not meet these requirements, your aviary will most likely require approval from Council.

Council may impose controls on the keeping of other types of birds or animals not listed in this brochure where circumstances warrant.

## Council Approvals

If you wish to erect a structure to house or contain birds or animals such as a stable, chicken coup or aviary, it is recommended you check with Council's Development Assessment and Compliance Section to see if a Development Application will be required. This must be done prior to commencing building works.

## Maintenance and Care

Other important points for maintaining clean and healthy conditions for your animals include:

- Ensure all food is stored and sealed in vermin proof containers.
- Ensure adequate clean water and shelter is available at all times.
- Regularly clean out the housing or yard to ensure all waste is removed and disposed of appropriately.
- Do not wash waste products into adjoining properties or watercourses.
- Do not overfeed or leave food scraps lying around which will attract vermin or nuisance bird species.
- Ensure the land is adequately fenced and enclosures are constructed to exclude entry of vermin. For example, install vermin proof mesh under the floor of aviaries and poultry houses.
- Limit the number of animals to a manageable size.
- Desexing of animals is recommended.
- Soils may contain contaminants, which can be absorbed by animals. To reduce exposure, follow Hunter New England Health's safety tips for the home and garden.



For more details relating to any of this information please contact Council on 4921 0333





## Keeping Non-Domestic Animals in Residential Areas

Many people choose to keep birds or animals on their residential properties.

It is important to recognise that keeping animals other than domestic pets has the potential to compromise the wellbeing of the animal and the health or amenity of the surrounding neighbourhood.

To ensure you keep your bird or animal in a happy and safe environment without affecting your neighbours, it is recommended you follow these simple guidelines.

### Choosing an Animal

Before selecting your bird or animal, you should consider its suitability within your household and answer the following questions:

- Do you have enough space for the animal?
- Does the animal require a lot of maintenance or exercise, and if so do you have time for this?
- Will the animal damage vegetation or cause erosion?
- Can you prevent the bird or animal escaping from your yard?
- Could it cause a noise or odour nuisance to surrounding neighbours?

### What are the Legal Requirements?

Birds and other animals kept on any property must be kept in a way so they do not create a public nuisance, an offensive odour, or unhealthy conditions. Failure to do this can result in Council issuing an order limiting or prohibiting the keeping of birds and animals, or the order may place restrictions on the manner in which the birds or animals are kept.

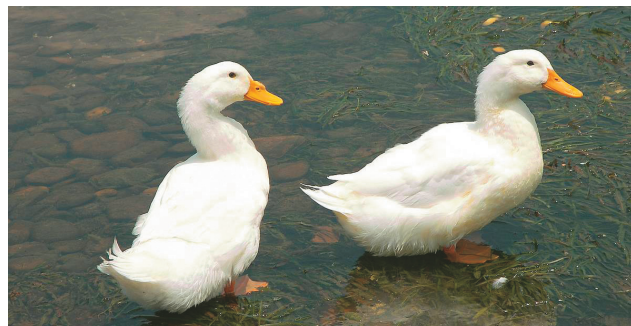
Part 5 Schedule 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 sets out standards for keeping birds or animals. The State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes)

2008 (Codes SEPP) defines what type of associated structures are allowed to be constructed. Below is a summary of these requirements that may be enforced if circumstances justify Council intervention.

### Poultry

- Fowls (chickens) or guinea fowl must not be kept within 4.5 metres of a dwelling, public hall, school, or premises used for manufacture, preparation, sale, or storage of food.
- Floors of poultry houses must be paved with concrete or asphalt unless it is located more than 15 metres from the above mentioned buildings.
- Poultry other than fowl (e.g. ducks, geese, turkeys) must not be kept within 30 metres of the above mentioned buildings.
- Poultry houses must be located in the rear of the yard and enclosed to prevent escape.
- Poultry houses must be constructed or installed so that roof water is disposed of without causing a nuisance to adjoining owners.
- Subdivision 21 of the Codes SEPP sets out permissible criteria for the construction of fowl houses. If you do not meet these requirements, your fowl house will most likely require approval from Council.
- **The keeping of roosters on residential properties is not recommended as it may create a noise nuisance to your neighbours.**

If your fowl or poultry house was constructed after 22 February 2014, the Codes SEPP requires that you are not permitted to keep any roosters without approval from Council.



## Horses and Cattle

- Must not be kept within nine metres of a dwelling, school, shop, office, factory, workshop, church, or other place of public worship, public hall, or premises used for manufacture, preparation, or storage of food.
- Stable floors must be paved with concrete or mineral asphalt or similar impervious material and the floor must be graded to drain.
- The runoff of faeces and/or urine from the yard must be prevented to avoid pollution.
- Yards must be fully enclosed to prevent escape.
- Subdivision 3A of the Codes SEPP sets out permissible criteria for the construction of horse stables. If you do not meet these requirements, your stables will most likely require approval from Council.

Further information can be found in the NSW Department of Primary Industries factsheet 'Guidelines for minimum standards for keeping horses in urban areas' which is available on the website [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au).

