

Urban Agriculture

In December of 2019 the City of Quesnel amended zoning policy to allow backyard hens and hobby beekeeping in residential zoned areas subject to the following conditions.



Hobby beekeeping

- All hobby beekeepers must register with the BC Ministry of Agriculture, and must retain proof of registration.
- Every hobby beekeeper and every person who allows, permits or establishes the keeping of bees on their property has the responsibility to:
 - Provide adequate water to prevent bees from seeking water in neighbouring bodies of water;
 - Maintain, or take reasonable precautions to protect hives from disturbances from wildlife, pets, or vandalism. If disturbances occur, ensure that the bees are requeened;
- In residential zones, a maximum of two (2) beehives is allowed on a parcel of land with an area less than 929 m² (10,000 ft²), and a maximum of four (4) beehives is allowed on a parcel of land with an area over 929 m² (10,000ft²).
- To ensure appropriate flight path height, a beehive should be situated behind a solid fence or hedge that is 1.8 metres (6 ft.) in height running parallel to the lot line. If a fence is not present, beehives should be located at least 2.4 metres (8 ft.) off the ground (i.e. on a rear deck).
- Hives shall be located so that the entrance to the hives faces away from adjacent property dwellings.
- No person shall locate a beehive within 3.0 metres of any lot line.

Backyard hens

- A maximum of four (4) hens are permitted per lot.
- No roosters are permitted.
- Hen enclosures must be sited at least 1.0 metre from any lot line, and at least 6.0 metres from windows and doors of any single detached dwelling.
- Hen enclosures are only permitted in rear yards.
- The maximum area of a hen enclosure shall be 9.2 m² (100 ft²) with a maximum height of 2 metres.
- The minimum area of a hen enclosure shall be 0.37 m² of coop space and 0.92 m² of enclosed run space per hen.



Note: All urban agriculture uses shall not emit odorous matters or create noise that causes a nuisance for neighbouring parcels.