



# First Hearing

## Unified Land Development Code

### Poultry on Single-Family Parcels less than 5 acres

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Growth Management Department

# Poultry on Single-Family Parcels less than 5 Acres

## Background

**June 3, 2025** Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) Policy Discussion, with motion:

- Allow 10 hens or ducks within the urban cluster on lots of 1 acre or less.
- Identify BMP's for stocking rates on a lot of an acre or more in the agricultural/rural areas with the focus on best management stock rates for fowl.

**July 15, 2025** Rural Concerns Advisory Committee:

- Prohibit drakes (male ducks).
- Allow any poultry outside the urban cluster.
- Add quail to definition.

**September 23, 2025** BoCC regular meeting:

- Approved the request to advertise.



# Poultry for Personal Use

## How many hens allowed currently?

- **6 hens** allowed as **accessory to single-family residential** regardless of zoning designation **under an acre**.
- **40 hens** or other poultry allowed **per acre over an acre up to 5 acres** in **A, A-RB, RE & RE-1** zoning district.

## Current Standards.

- Covered and fenced enclosures. Movable or stationary.
- Chickens roaming in fenced areas during daylight hours.
- Subject to the accessory setbacks for the zoning district.

## What's prohibited.

- Roosters in residential zoning districts.
- Selling poultry or byproducts on premises.
- Noxious odors and nuisance.
- No commercial raising of poultry under 5 acres.

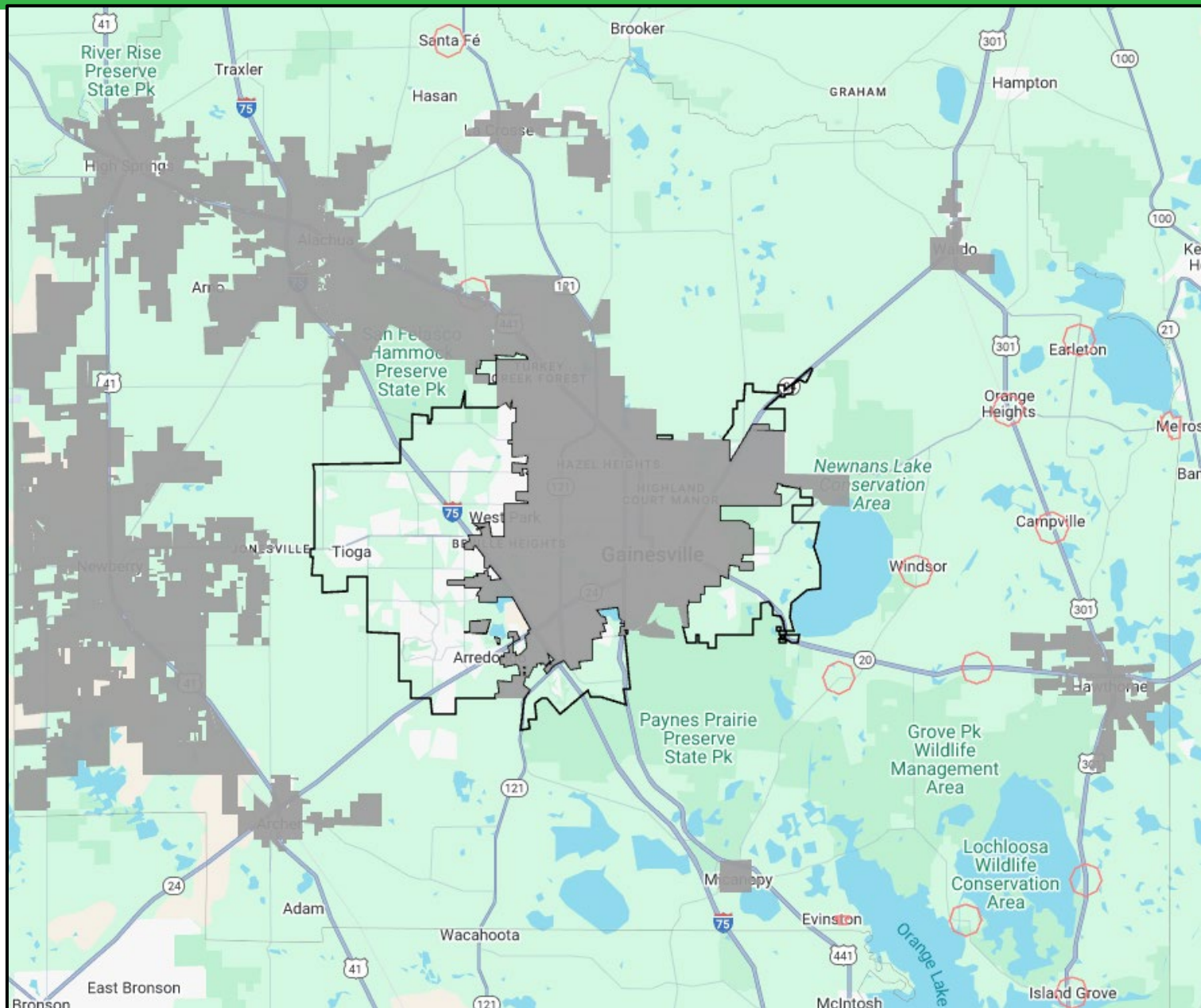


# Comparison: Poultry for Personal Use

All prohibit roosters, selling eggs or slaughtering on-site and require secured & covered coop and sanitary maintenance.

Personal Use	Flock size	Lot size	Zoning Districts	Location & Setbacks	Screened	Permits	Class
<a href="#"><u>Alachua County</u></a> (Current)	6 hens; 40 per acre	< 1 acre; up to 5 acres	Single Family; A, A-RB, RE, RE-1	Rear yard & per District	—	Not explicit.	—
<a href="#"><u>Leon County</u></a>	10 hens or ducks	—	Single Family, Duplex or Multi- Family	Rear yard	—	Permit over 100ft <sup>2</sup>	—
<a href="#"><u>Marion County</u></a>	6 hens 12 hens Max 25 hens	< 10 acre; >10 acre	Single-family A-3 A-2	Rear/Side yard, 20ft from adjacent residential & per District	—	Permit over 100ft <sup>2</sup>	—
<a href="#"><u>City of Gainesville</u></a>	10 hens	—	SF, RC, U1, U2	Rear yard & per District	—	No permit for 12 ft <sup>2</sup> movable and prefab coop	—
<a href="#"><u>City of Jacksonville</u></a>	5 hens; + 5 more hens; Max 15 hens	< 1 acre; 2 acre; 2+ acre	Residential	Rear Yard	Y	Permit over 100ft <sup>2</sup>	Y

# Urban Cluster



# Poultry for Personal Use

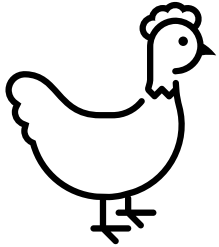
## How many proposed?

Location	Parcel Size	Limit	Poultry Types
Urban Cluster	< 5 acres	10	Only hens and ducks
Outside Urban Cluster	< 1 acre	10	Any poultry
	1 acre to < 5 acres	15 per acre	

## Proposed Definition.

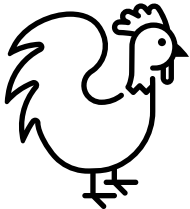
Poultry. Varieties include chicken, turkey, goose, duck, Rock Cornish hens, and game birds such as pheasant, squab, quail and guinea fowl. Poultry does not include huge birds such as ostrich, emu and rhea (ratites).

# Poultry for Personal Use



## Proposed Standards.

- Covered and fenced enclosures. Movable or stationary.
- ~~Chickens~~ **Poultry** roaming in fenced areas during daylight hours.
- Subject to the accessory setbacks for the zoning district.
- **Allowed as an accessory use to single-family residence in all zoning districts**
- **Expansion of poultry outside the urban cluster.**
- Allow harvesting of poultry **or byproducts** on premises under state/federal regulation.



## Proposed prohibited.

- Roosters **and drakes** in residential zoning districts.
- Noxious odors, **noise** and nuisance.
- No commercial raising of poultry under 5 acres; **4H/FFA activity exception.**

# Livestock for Personal Use

## Other Proposed Changes:

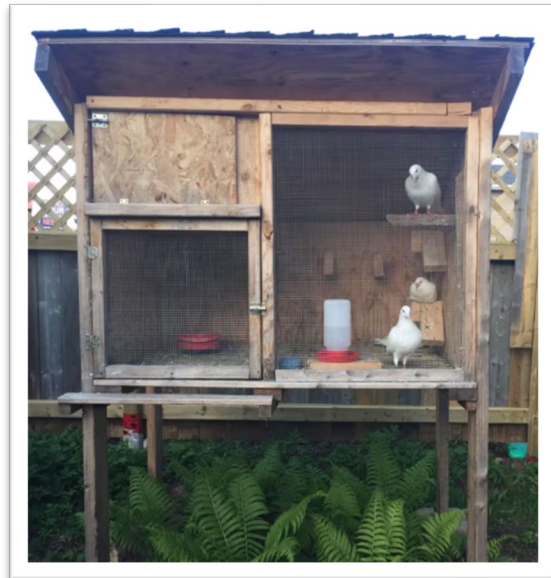
ULDC Sec. 404.13 (a)

(a) *Livestock on parcels less than five (5) acres.* The keeping of livestock on less than five acres is allowed as a limited use within the A, A-RB, RE, or RE-1 districts and as an accessory use to any legal single-family residence within the A, A-RB, RE or RE-1 districts subject to the following standards.

# Outreach

Online public notice for all ULDC amendments.

Rural Concerns Advisory Committee, July 15, 2025



# Staff Recommendation

Staff recommend that the Board of County Commissioners approve the advertising for the second hearing for adoption of County-initiated amendments to the Unified Land Development Code.