

Horses

INFORMATION

Where can I keep horses?

Horse keeping is allowed in the Very Low (VL) Residential and Low Residential (L) zoning districts provided the property is at least 20,000 square feet (RCMC Table 17.88.020-1, see Table Note (4)). Most importantly, horses shall be kept at least 70 feet away from any adjacent primary dwelling, school, hospital or church. Barns, corrals, stables or other horse enclosures must comply with this 70-foot setback. (RCMC 17.88.020(B)) This setback does not apply to an adjacent guesthouse or second dwelling unit.



How many horses are allowed?

You must have 10,000 square feet of lot area for each horse, mule, donkey or pony. In other words, on a ½ acre lot (20,000 square feet) up to 2 horses are allowed. The maximum number of horses allowed is 6 (RCMC Table 17.88.020-1) regardless of how big your lot is.

What about ponies?

A pony is any horse measuring 14 hands and 2 inches or less in height at the withers. A pony may be kept in addition to the keeping of 2 horses. In lieu of keeping horses, 3 ponies may be kept on a 20,000-square-foot lot. (RCMC Table 17.88.020-1)

What about a foal?

Young horses born to a horse that is already allowed may be kept for 12 months (RCMC Table 17.88.020-1).

Do I need a permit?

No City permit is required to keep a horse for your own use.

Can I stable horses for other people?

Private stables are allowed in the Very Low (VL) Residential zoning district only (RCMC Table 17.30.030-1). Private stables may not charge rent, or otherwise be compensated, for use or boarding of horses, mules, or ponies (RCMC 17.32.020(B)(3)&(4)).

Commercial stables may be allowed in the Very Low (VL) Residential zoning district subject to approval of a Conditional Use Permit (RCMC Table 17.30.030-1). Commercial stables are defined as a stable for horses, mules, or ponies which are rented, used, or boarded for money (RCMC 17.32.020(B)(3)&(4)). Contact the Planning Department for information about the zoning of your property and the Conditional Use Permit process.

Further Information

Please call or visit us at 10500 Civic Center Drive. City offices are open Monday through Thursday, between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The Planning Department phone number is (909) 477-2750.