

## **Amesville Livestock Ordinance A-19**

The Village of Amesville allows residents to have sheep and chickens on their private property within the village limits as long as the animals do not disturb other village residents due to noise, smell, unsanitary conditions, or other bothersome behaviors/conditions. Below are the space/care requirements for these animals as well as the consequences for violation of said requirements.

### **1. Chickens**

- a. The sole purpose of keeping chickens within the Village of Amesville is for the farming of their eggs for the private consumption of the property owner and not to sell the product. In no case shall any product produced or made as a result of the keeping of village chickens as provided in this section be offered for sale on any property within the Village limits.
- b. No roosters.
- c. No guineas (game birds) per Ohio Basic Code regulations regarding their care.
- d. No more than ten chickens per property.
- e. Chickens will be cared for humanely and responsibly including, but not limited to, maintaining excellent sanitary conditions and supplying appropriate food, shelter, and water. The Village will use the Ohio code regarding livestock care.
- f. Chickens must have appropriate shelter/coops/fencing. Any shelter/coop/fencing shall be located a minimum of ten feet from all property lines and shall be located within the rear yard. Each chicken must have at least two square feet of coop space and at least eight square feet of ground space.
- g. Chickens shall not be permitted to be outside the designated fenced enclosure and shall be enclosed in their coop between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- h. The Village Marshal will inspect such areas annually for habitability and sanitation. Inspections may occur more frequently if a resident of the Village registers a complaint with the Resolution Committee (see paragraph 5) concerning the habitability or sanitary conditions of an animal shelter.
- i. No chicken shall be slaughtered on property within the Village limits.

### **2. Sheep**

- a. There shall be a minimum of two sheep and a maximum of three sheep. Research indicates that single sheep can become problematic, noisy, and overactive.
- b. Sheep must have appropriate shelter/fencing. Any shelter/fencing shall be located a minimum of ten feet from all property lines and shall be located within the rear yard. The Village will use the Ohio Basic code regarding livestock care. Add as per our meeting last month.

- c. Each sheep must have at least two hundred square feet of ground space and are not allowed out of their designated enclosure.
- d. Sheep will be cared for humanely and responsibly including, but not limited to, maintaining excellent sanitary conditions and supplying appropriate food, shelter, and water.
- e. No sheep shall be slaughtered on property zoned for residential use.
- f. The Village Marshal will inspect such areas annually for habitability and sanitation. Inspections may occur more frequently if a resident of the Village registers a complaint with the Resolution Committee (see paragraph 5) concerning the habitability or sanitary conditions of an animal shelter.

### **3. Violations of space/care requirements**

The Village Marshall and his deputies will notify persons violating the requirements herein. The notice may be given by delivering such ticket to the violator or by affixing it to the dwelling unit housing said violator. The penalty for violating any of the sections above shall be charged as a minor misdemeanor.

### **4. Co-mingling of Sheep and Chickens**

Up to two (2) sheep and four (4) chickens may share the same square footage required for two sheep. If a resident wishes to have more than two sheep and four chickens, the square footage requirement for each animal in paragraphs 1. and 2. above will apply accordingly for each additional animal.

### **5. Resolution of Concerns**

Within the first three months after the enactment of this ordinance, the Village of Amesville will establish a Resolution Committee consisting of the Mayor as chair, at least one member of council, and two non-council members of the Village of Amesville. The purpose of the committee will be to resolve any resident concern regarding this Livestock Ordinance.

Procedure for the Resolution Committee:

- Concerns must be presented in writing – via email or snail mail - to one of the members of the Resolution Committee
- The Resolution Committee will have thirty days to:
  - investigate the concern
  - decide what, if any, action should be taken,
  - respond – in writing – to the Amesville resident who submitted the concern

- If the Committee decides action is necessary, the committee will begin such action within fifteen days after written response is communicated to the concerned resident.

Any resident of the village can seek a waiver from the above regulations by petitioning the Village Council in writing with their request. The reasons for the waiver must be stated in the request as well as the location for housing the animals, any particular care needed for such animals and such request must not be in violation of ORC.