



**Health Department
Environmental Health Section
Vector and Code Enforcement**

5235 N. Columbia Blvd.
Portland, OR 97203

<http://www.mchealth.org/vector>

Office Hours
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MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON

PERMIT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicants must *notify* all property owners and residents within 150 feet of the property lines of the specified animal facility about the existence of the facility.
2. For beehives and pigeon facilities – applicants are required to obtain written and signed permission* by all neighbors within 150 feet of the proposed or existing facility using a provided petition form. In addition, if you are the tenant and not the owner of the property you must obtain written permission* from the property owner to keep specified animals on the rental property.
3. Applicants are required to meet the “Specified Animal Facility Requirements” (see below) as specified in Section 13.05.015 in order to receive a permit. Inspection of the facility may be required before a permit is issued.
4. Issuance of a Specified Animal Facility Permit grants permission for the Multnomah County Health Department to enter and inspect the facility at any reasonable time to determine if Issuance Criteria are being met. If, at any time, it is determined the Issuance Criteria are not met, the permit can be revoked and/or a civil penalty of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 per violation may be assessed for each day the violation conditions exist.
5. An applicant may appeal to the Multnomah County Hearings Officer within seven (7) days after a determination is made. A determination is a “notice of denial, refusal to renew, suspension, or revocation of license of permit for specified animals and or specified animal facility (MCC Chapter 15.231)”. For more information please contact the Multnomah County Code Enforcement office.
6. Livestock may not be picketed or allowed to roam within 50 feet of any building used as a residence or any commercial building in which foodstuff is prepared, kept or sold.
7. Roosters are prohibited in the City of Portland.
8. Pigs or swine are prohibited unless the pig is a miniature pot-bellied pig (*Sus scrofa vittatus*) and the maximum shoulder height of the pig is no greater than 18 inches and the pig weighs no more than 95 lbs. No more than 3 pigs can be kept at any one address.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

9. A permit is not required if a person is keeping a total of three or fewer chickens, ducks, doves, pigeons, pygmy goats or rabbits unless it is determined the animals are not being kept in accordance with Municipal Code 13.05.015.

SPECIFIED ANIMAL FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

The criteria for issuing a specified animal facility permit are as follows:

1. The facility is in good repair, capable of being maintained in a clean and in a sanitary condition, free of vermin, obnoxious smells and substances.
2. The facility will not create a nuisance or disturb neighboring residents due to noise, odor, damage or threats to public health.
3. The facility should have ground cover that is absorbent and is replaced as often as necessary to prevent odor and vector breeding.
4. The facility will reasonably prevent the specified animal from roaming at large. When necessary for the protection of the public health and safety, it may be required the specified animal be kept or confined in a secure enclosure so that the animal will not constitute a danger to human life or property.
5. Adequate safeguards are made to prevent unauthorized access to the specified animal by general members of the public.
6. The health or well being of the animal will not be in any way endangered by the manner of keeping or confinement.
7. The facility will be adequately lighted and ventilated.
8. The facility is located on the applicant's property so as to be at least 15 feet from any building used or capable of being used for human habitation, not including the applicant's own dwelling. Facilities for keeping bees, such as beehives or apiaries, shall be at least 15 feet from any public walkway, street or road, or any public building, park or recreation area, or any residential dwelling. Any public walkway, street or road, or any public building, park or recreation area, or any residential dwelling, other than that occupied by the applicant, that is less than 200 feet from the applicants beehives or apiaries shall be protected by a six-foot hedgerow, partition, fence or similar enclosure around the beehive or apiary, installed on the applicant's property.
9. If applicable, the structure must comply with the City's building code and must be consistent with the requirements of any applicable zoning code, condition of approval of a land use decision or other land use regulation.
10. The applicant must have sufficient ability to respond to any claims for damages for personal injury or property damage, which may be caused by any specified animal kept at the facility.
11. Certain animals such as horses, cows or other livestock, as well as pigeons, geese, pheasants, doves, and other animals may have additional restrictions. Please contact our office for more information.
12. Beehives and pigeon facilities require written and signed permission* by all neighbors within 150 feet of the proposed or existing facility. Permit applicants must notify and obtain permission*. Failure to obtain 100% of neighboring property owners' and residents' permission* will be grounds for permit denial and removal of the hives.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE CRITERIA LISTED ABOVE CAN RESULT IN THE REVOCATION OF THE SPECIFIED ANIMAL FACILITY PERMIT AND/OR AN ASSESSMENT OF CIVIL PENALTY OF NOT LESS THAN \$100 AND NOT MORE THAN \$500 FOR EACH VIOLATION.

* Permission – Multnomah County Health Department, Code Enforcement's intent is to have beekeeping permit applicants seek permission from their neighbors to promote interaction between the applicant and his/her neighbors so that 1) the neighbors understand that the applicant is seeking a permit, 2) they understand what will happen when the applicant keeps bees on his/her property, and 3) they have no serious objections to the applicant keeping bees.

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