



## TOWN OF PERINTON

1350 TURK HILL ROAD ■ FAIRPORT, NEW YORK 14450-8796  
(585) 223-0770 ■ Fax: (585) 223-3629 ■ [www.perinton.org](http://www.perinton.org)

### KEEPING ANIMALS ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

Note: This document does not apply to keeping customary household pets or chickens.

Perinton Town Code regulates the keeping of animals on residential properties that are under 5 acres in area within the town. Customary household pets are domesticated animals, such as a dog, cat, rodent, reptile, fish or turtle and are permitted in all districts with no town approval except for dogs, subject to the Dog Control Law of the Town. Chickens may be kept in accordance with the chicken-keeping regulations and by permit from the Building & Codes Department. Residents may seek approval for keeping all other animals and non-customary household pets, including honeybees by following the below procedures to apply for a Special Use Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

#### Application requirements:

1. Obtain an application for a Special Use permit from the Director of Volunteer Boards or online at <https://perinton.org/government/boards/volunteer-boards/zoning-board-of-appeals/forms/>
2. Provide a letter of intent detailing the nature of the request.
3. Include parts 1,2 & 3 of the short-form Environmental Assessment Form-  
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6191.html>
4. Monroe County Planning Department application & comments are required.  
<https://www.monroecounty.gov/planning-guide>
5. Completion in a class on animal-specific techniques from a Town-approved entity. The Town will not accept an application unless it is accompanied by proof of completion. Acceptable courses include:
  - Background to Beekeeping (Udemy online course)
  - Local Cornell Cooperative Extension courses
  - Rochester Beekeeper courses
  - Any other appropriate courses, subject to Town review/approval
6. Provide a copy of the property survey map indicating size and location of any hive boxes, enclosures, proposed fencing, barriers and distances to adjacent property lines.

#### General requirements:

Animals shall be housed in such a manner as not to create an annoyance to surrounding properties.

#### For honeybees:

1. Apiaries should consist of no more than two colonies.
2. Apiaries should be located in the rear yard and set back 15 feet from adjacent property lines.
3. Apiaries should be bordered by a hedge, fence or flyway barrier to force bees to fly above head level and provide screening from neighbors.

The Zoning Board has the right to modify these requirements as they see fit based on the merits of each individual application.

Standards for Special Use Permits- See Section 208-54D, which includes:

1. The use will not prevent the orderly and reasonable use of adjacent properties
2. The public health, safety, general welfare or order of the Town will not be adversely affected by the proposed use in its location.
3. The use will be in general harmony with and promote the general purposes and intent of the most recent Comprehensive Plan of the Town and the Zoning Ordinance.
4. The proposed use will not interfere with the preservation of the general character of the neighborhood and that the proposed use will be compatible with its surroundings and with the character of the neighborhood and of the community in general.

Complete applications may be submitted to the Director of Volunteer Boards in person at the Perinton Town Hall to be placed on a Zoning Board agenda. Contact this office with questions at 585-223-0770 or [Lstid@perinton.org](mailto:Lstid@perinton.org)