

**VIETNAMESE POT BELLIED PIGS:  
ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS FOR KEEPING**

**Authority:** Baltimore City Health Code, Title 2, § 2-106; Title 10, Subtitles 1 and 3.

1. A permit from the Bureau of Animal Control is required to own, keep, or harbor in the City a Vietnamese pot bellied pig that is 6 months old or older.
2. Proof must be presented to show that the Vietnamese pot bellied pig is altered.
  - a. Boars are to be neutered prior to 9 weeks.
  - b. Gilts are to be spayed prior to 6 months.
3. Proof of current vaccinations and health examination must be available for inspection by the Bureau of Animal Control on request.
4. No Vietnamese pot bellied pig may be kept if it is greater than 22 inches in height at the shoulder or weighs more than 150 pounds.
5. No tusks may show outside of the mouth when the mouth is closed.
6. All pot belly pigs must be kept in a clean and sanitary environment that will prevent disease, odor, and insect and rodent breeding.

**PIGEONS:  
ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS FOR KEEPING**

**Authority:** Baltimore City Health Code, Title 2, § 2-106; Title 10, Subtitles 1 and 3.

1. No person may own, keep, or harbor any racing pigeons, any show pigeons, or any other pigeons without obtaining a permit from the Bureau of Animal Control.
2. No person may own, keep, or harbor more than 50 pigeons.
3. No person may build or use a pigeon coop or loft without first obtaining all applicable zoning and building permits or authorizations.
4. Every coop or loft must provide at least 1 square foot of floor space for each pigeon over the age of 1 month. It must be constructed so that the interior is dry, airy, and bright, with adequate ventilation.
5. Each coop or loft must be well maintained and kept in a clean and sanitary manner so as to prevent disease, odor, and insect and rodent breeding.
6. Feed must be stored and used in a way that prevents the attraction of rodents.
7. No person may permit her or his pigeons to be outside the coop or loft except for the purpose of supervised exercise. This exercise is limited to a maximum of 2 a day.
8. The owner or keeper may not allow pigeons to perch or linger on the property or buildings of others.

**FOWL:  
ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS FOR RAISING**

**Authority:** Baltimore City Health Code, Title 2, § 2-106; Title 10, Subtitles 1 and 3.

A. Chickens.

1. No person may own, keep, or harbor any chickens without:
  - a. obtaining a permit from the Bureau of Animal Control; and
  - b. registering with the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Domestic Poultry and Exotic Bird Registration Division.
2. No more than 4 chickens over the age of 1 month may be kept.
3. All chickens must be confined at all times to a movable pen.
  - a. No pen may be closer than 25 feet to any residence.
  - b. Each pen must be kept clean, free of all odors and materials that can attract rodents.
  - c. Each pen must be moved frequently to minimize turf destruction and the build up of manure borne pathogens such as coccidiosis and roundworms.
  - d. Pens with feed boxes and nest boxes must allow 2 square feet per hen.
4. The chickens must be provided with shade during warm weather.
5. Potable water and proper feed must be made available.
6. All chickens must be provided with access to a well-constructed shelter that provides suitable protection from inclement weather.
7. All chickens must be afforded veterinary care if they are known or suspected to be sick or injured.

B. Other Fowl Prohibited

Except as otherwise provided in these rules and regulations, no person may own, keep, or harbor any other fowl, such as but not limited to:

1. Roosters
2. Ducks
3. Geese
4. Turkeys
5. Guinea fowl
6. Emus
7. Rheas
8. Ostriches

**BEES:  
ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS FOR KEEPING**

**Authority:** Baltimore City Health Code, Title 2, § 2-106; Title 10, Subtitles 1 and 3.

Beekeeping is permitted in the City only if:

1. the activity is registered with the Maryland Department of Agriculture;
2. no more than 1 hive, containing no more than 1 swarm, is kept for each 2,500 square feet of lot area;
3. hives and swarms are kept so that:
  - a. they are inaccessible to the general public; and
  - b. bee movement to and from the hive does not unreasonably interfere with the proper enjoyment of the property of others, with the comfort of the public, or with the use of any public right-of-way; and
4. proof of Maryland Department of Agriculture registration is readily available for inspection by the Bureau of Animal Control on request.

**WILD AND EXOTIC ANIMALS:  
PROHIBITED**

**Authority:** Baltimore City Health Code, Title 2, § 2-106; Title 10, Subtitles 1, 3, and 6.

1. Except as provided in ¶ 2 of these regulations, no person may sell or give to another person, possess, harbor, or keep any of the wild or exotic animals identified in ¶ 3 of these regulations.
2. These regulations do not apply to:
  - a. a zoological park or aquarium accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.
  - b. a research facility licensed under the Federal Animal Welfare Act.
  - c. a circus or native wildlife rehabilitator licensed by federal, state, or City permit.
  - d. a Bureau of Animal Control permitted and approved venue to exhibit or use animals, which has adequate operating protective measures to prevent these animals from becoming a public nuisance, injuring the public, or causing a public health threat.
  - e. an animal owned by and working for law enforcement or other governmental agency.
  - f. an animal trained to perform tasks for its owner by a non-profit tax-exempt organization that is dedicated to improving the quality of life of persons who have disabilities that severely limit mobility.
3. The following wild or exotic animals and their hybrid offspring are prohibited in Baltimore City:
  - a. any native or exotic animal whose possession or sale is prohibited by any Federal, Maryland State, or City law, rule, or regulation.
  - b. all dogs, other than domesticated dogs (*Canis familiaris*)
  - c. all cats, other than domesticated cats (*Felis catus*)
  - d. all bears
  - e. all bats
  - f. all squirrels

- g. all fur-bearing mammals of the family Mustelidae, except for ferrets
- h. all venomous insects, other than honey bees
- i. all venomous spiders, scorpions, and centipedes
- k. all large rodents (Rodentia)
- l. all even-toed ungulates (Artiodactyla) (deer, goat, sheep, etcetera)
- m. all odd-toed ungulates (Perissodactyla), other than domesticated horses (*Equus caballus*) used in the Arraber and Carriage trade.
- n. all marsupials (opossum, kangaroo, sugar glider, etcetera)
- o. all Procyonidae (raccoons, kinkajou, etcetera)
- p. all carnivorous mammals of the family Viverridae (civit, mongoose, etcetera.)
- q. all non-human primates (apes, monkeys, etcetera.)
- r. all Bovine (cattle)
- s. all porcine (pigs), other than Vietnamese pot bellied pigs

**REPTILES:  
PROHIBITED**

**Authority:** Baltimore City Health Code, Title 2, § 2-106; Title 10, Subtitles 1, 3, and 6.

No person may sell or give to another person, possess, harbor or keep any of the following:

1. Crocodylia, including, but not limited to alligator, caiman, and crocodile.
2. Venomous reptiles that are harmful to people, even if de venomized.
3. Snakes over 5 feet long.
4. Lizards over 5 feet long.
5. Green iguanas (*Iguana iguana*) less than 30 inches long or over 5 feet long.

