



Other Animals

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Things you should know

All animals must be kept in a manner that does not create a nuisance or a health risk to the surrounding community.

Common issues in relation to animals include:

- offensive odours
- noise nuisances or
- unhealthy conditions causing pest and vermin issues.



These issues can be avoided by considering the type and number of animals which are suitable for your neighbourhood.

Birds

Many people like to keep birds on their residential properties but choosing to do this poses many responsibilities.

To ensure you keep your bird in a happy and safe environment without upsetting or disturbing your neighbours, it is recommended that you follow the [NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice No 4 - Keeping and Trading of Birds](#).

If you are considering backyard chickens there are regulations around poultry houses and issues around the care and management of chickens. Refer to our [Keeping Chooks](#) page.

Rabbits, guinea pigs, rodents.

If you are planning on keeping a rabbit, guinea pig or rodent as a pet they must be a domestic breed and kept in a cage. Cages may be portable to allow access to fresh feed, but must securely contain the animal.

The rabbit is a declared noxious animal under the Rural Lands Protection Act, 1989. However, you

can keep **two** domestic breed rabbits as long as they are the same sex and securely housed in an appropriate, escape-proof cage which is kept odour free.

These animals must not be released into the wild.

Reptiles & amphibians

All species must be adequately housed to prevent escape. The National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974 and Fauna Protection Regulations place a general prohibition on the keeping of reptiles. Advice on the keeping of any reptile or amphibian should be sought from National Parks and Wildlife Service in **ALL** cases.

Pigs

You are not allowed to have pigs or dung within 60 m of a dwelling, workplace, church, school or public place. This means that you will need at least 1.5 ha to be allowed to keep a pig. You should also read [the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Pigs](#).

Cattle

There are minimum animal welfare requirements for the transport and keeping of cattle in NSW. The [Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Cattle](#), provides general directions on how to safeguard the welfare of cattle.

You should also ensure that all fencing is maintained to a high standard to avoid cattle roaming, particularly along road ways.

Horses

The Department of Primary Industry provides information on the [welfare and management of keeping horses](#).

You should also ensure that all fencing is maintained to a high standard to avoid cattle roaming, particularly along road ways.

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