

Planning and Zoning Approved Recommendations
01/06/2026

(Proposed changes to existing section in Red)

1.

This proposed amendment to Landscaping section of UDO Sec 21-8-4 and add a new section to Foxfire Village UDO addressing Landscaping, irrigated sod coverage, and drought tolerant plantings is consistent with applicable elements of the Foxfire Village Land Use Plan and Long-Range Plan and is reasonable and in the public interest in order to provide clear and consistent guidance to property owners.

Sec. 21-8-4. - Landscaping.

(a) The conservation of existing mature specimen trees (such as pines, magnolias, dogwoods, and holly) that do not conflict with the placement of buildings, drives, walks, patios, or other site amenities is strongly encouraged. A minimum of eight qualifying trees for a single-family residential site in zoning districts RS-20, RS-30, RS-40, EU and RE, shall be saved and protected during construction. Qualifying trees shall be healthy trees, three inches in diameter at four and one-half feet above the ground or larger. If the site does not have enough qualifying trees, then sufficient three-inch caliper trees or larger shall be planted to meet the minimum number of eight qualifying trees.

(b) The approximate location, size, and type of existing qualifying trees and trees to be used to meet this requirement shall be shown on the site plan.

(c) All trees used to meet the requirements of this section shall be healthy and well protected during construction.

(d) Foundation plantings requirement. Foundation plantings shall be provided for all principal and accessory buildings and structures, including storage sheds. The number of plants or plant groupings shall be based on the linear footage of foundation along the front, back, and sides of each structure minus doorways, and steps at a rate of one shrub or plant grouping per six linear feet of foundation. All foundation plantings shall be five gallons or larger at the time of planting. Plantings are not required to be placed in a uniform, linear arrangement when installed and plant groupings or ground cover beds may be used to meet the requirement of this section.

(e) HVAC units, pool equipment, well houses, above-ground propane tanks, and other such structures on the property shall be completely screened with evergreen landscaping material and/or lattice or fencing/wall (limited in height and size to the equipment being screened) before a certificate of occupancy is issued. Evergreen plantings must be of a size and growth potential as to form a complete screen within two years.

(f) The village zoning administrator may delay the landscaping requirement for a maximum of six months after occupation in order to facilitate the health and survival of plantings with the submission of a written and signed landscape plan.

(g) The requirements of subsections (d) and (e) are a continuing requirement. Dead plantings and trees must be replaced so as to maintain the minimum requirements set forth above.

(h) Hardscape. Decorative fencing and walls are allowed with a maximum height of three feet and may be in setbacks. Decorative fencing or walls shall have a maximum of one corner (angled turn) per run of fence and may not cross any driveway or enclose any area. Allowable fencing materials are found in [section 21-8-3](#), Fence and wall standards. Gazebos, pergolas, and other similar open structures must be of wood, brick, stone, wrought iron or powder coated aluminum and may not be plastic or PVC. Walkways and paths are allowed in setbacks.

(I) Groundcover. Foxfire Village recommends natural ground cover in keeping with our ongoing water conservation efforts. Where able, it is recommended that non-drought tolerant sod be used sparingly and the remaining area using ground cover be natural, such as pine straw, mulch, or other natural, permeable ground cover to diminish the need for irrigated areas in landscape plans.

(J) Drought Tolerant Planting. Utilizing plants, trees, and sods that are drought tolerant in landscape plans is highly encouraged by Foxfire Village. Using drought tolerant plantings assists in maintaining the beauty of our natural ecosystem and assists conserving our natural water resources. See Appendix for a list of Drought Tolerant Plants/Trees/and Sod. ([Ord. No. 2021-07](#), § 2, 7-13-2021)

Appendix addition as attachment

2.

This proposed amendment to the Animals section of the UDO Sec 21-8-9 is consistent with applicable elements of the Foxfire Village Land Use Plan and Long-Range Plan and is reasonable and in the public interest in order to provide clear and consistent guidance to property owners.

Sec. 21-8-9. - Animals.

Within the RS-20, RS-30, RS-40 WS, RM, RD, and VBD zoning districts only domesticated animals/pets are permitted; no livestock, fowl, equine, or bovine animals (as defined in article XIII, Definitions) may be kept within these districts. Pets kept within these zoning districts are also subject to the regulations contained in [chapter 3](#) of the Foxfire Village General Code.

Within the EU, and RF-200 zoning districts equine, rabbits, and fowl (limited to 30 combined or total such animals and no roosters) are permitted, notwithstanding acreage requirements for equine. No livestock or bovine animals may be kept within these districts.

Within the RA-5 and RE zoning districts equine, bovine, livestock, fowl, and rabbits are permitted.

Equine may be kept on lots within the districts specified above that meet the minimum lot size of ~~six~~ **five** acres and other requirements of this section. The maximum number of horses that may regularly be kept on such lots is two for the first ~~six~~ **five** acres plus one horse for each additional ~~two~~ **acre** of contiguous property under the same ownership or control. Acreage shall not be counted or attributable to more than one animal for purposes of satisfying acreage requirements. Any barn, shed, stable, hutch, roost, or pen must be located ~~150~~ **75** feet from any property line that abuts residential zoning.

Property owners are responsible for controlling odor, insects, animal waste and runoff caused or affected by the keeping of animals on the property.

Beekeeping is permitted within any zoning district per the requirements contained in article II, [chapter 3](#) of the Foxfire Village General Code.

([Ord. No. 2021-07](#), § 2, 7-13-2021; [Ord. No. 2024-07](#), § 4, 2-13-2024; Ord. No. [2024-18](#), § 3, 12-10-2024)

Information used in PZ Board recommendation -

County Equine Zoning

Moore County	1 Acre	0 limit
Vass	5 acres	1 per acre
Carthage	5 acres	1 per acre
Pinehurst	5 acres	0 limit
Southern Pines	10 acres(4.59 pre 12/1989)	0 limit
Cameron	Unable to pole (no returned call)	
Aberdeen	5 acres	1 per .45 acre fenced
Foxfire	6 acres	2 limit plus 1 per additional 2 acres
Robbins	5 acres	0 limit
Whispering Pines	4 acres	0 limit

Recommended Acreage for Horses in North Carolina

General Guidelines

The amount of land needed for keeping horses can vary based on several factors, including the type of horse operation and local regulations. Here are some general recommendations:

TYPE OF OPERATION	ACREAGE PER HORSE
Breeding and Pasture Grazing	4 acres
Sport Horses (limited turnout)	1-2 acres
Boarding with stalls only	1 acre

Local Regulations

In Winterville, North Carolina, specific regulations apply to keeping livestock, including horses:

- **Distance from Dwellings:** Horses must be kept at least 300 feet away from any dwelling, school, church, or retail establishment.
- **Number of Animals:**
 - No more than one horse or livestock on a lot less than one acre.
 - Up to two animals on larger lots, with additional restrictions based on total acreage.

Considerations for Horse Management

- **Pasture Management:** Good pasture management can reduce hay needs and improve horse health. Horses are selective grazers, so maintaining healthy pastures is crucial.
- **Legal Requirements:** Always check local zoning laws and permits before starting a horse operation.

These guidelines can help ensure that you provide a suitable environment for your horses while complying with local regulations.

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