CLEVELAND’S ZONING FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE & GREEN SPACE

Open Space & Recreation Zoning District (Ch. 342 adopted in 2005)
- gives the City the ability to reserve land for parks, recreation facilities and open space
- permits parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, recreation centers, marinas, cemeteries, green space
- establishes setback regulations for recreation facilities from Residential District line

Urban Garden Zoning District (Ch. 336 adopted in 2007)
- gives the City the ability to reserve land for garden use through zoning
- permits urban gardens and prohibits all other use of a property
- requires public notice and a public hearing to change the zoning to permit building on an urban garden site
- permits “market gardens,” including the sale of produce from farmers’ markets

“Chicken and Bee” Zoning (Ch. 205.04 & 347.02 adopted in 2009)
- allows most residents to keep up to 6 chickens, ducks or rabbits (1 per 800 sq ft) and 2 beehives in a back yard or on small vacant lots
- requires greater setbacks and larger land areas for keeping of larger animals (pigs, goats, sheep)
- allows coops and cages in Residential back yards to be set located within 5 feet of side lot lines and 1½ feet of rear yard lines
- requires licensing by the City’s Public Health Department
- applicable citywide

Agriculture in Residential Districts (Ch. 337.02, 337.23, 337.25 adopted in 2010)
- permits agriculture as a principal use on all vacant residentially zoned lots
- permits sale of produce from farm stands in Residential Districts as conditional use with BZA approval, in consideration of established factors
- permits 4-foot high vinyl-coated chain link fences in front yards of urban agriculture uses, whereas chain link fences are otherwise prohibited in front yards in Residential Districts

Urban Agriculture Overlay District (Ch 336A pending for adoption in 2010)
- allows the City to designate particular areas for larger-scale farming activities
- permits greater intensity of animal raising and permits larger animals (horses, cows, alpaca, etc.)
- limits this larger-scale farming to areas specifically designated through ordinances adopted by City Council through a rezoning process