



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Southwestern District Health Unit

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4-13-26

Dustin Dassinger
Dickinson City Administrator
Dickinson, ND

Dear Mr. Dassinger,

In regards to the concerns with raising quail within the City of Dickinson, there are many items to consider. While the owner of the animals may gain some benefit from raising these animals, there are several reasons why this may not be a good idea:

Reasons not allow Raising Quail In City Limits

1. Quail can be very excitable and agitable making them prone to injury when approached by humans or their pets.
2. They produce a significant amount of waste requiring frequent cleaning of the cages and replacement of their bedding. Because the waste is highly acidic, it should not be used for fertilizer unless it is composted first. The bedding generated would also be a concern for the same reasons.
3. Quail cannot be allowed to freely roam around the yard as unless their wings are clipped, they will simply fly away.
4. Quail can be very aggressive and territorial to the point of cannibalism so they may need to be housed in individual cages.
5. They will most likely attract predators.
6. They are not hardy in cold and wet weather.
7. If they are to be butchered, would that be allowed on a residential property?
8. Quail kick a lot of feed out of their feeders leading to waste and thus attracting rodents to the area.
9. The manure and dirty cages may create an odor nuisance for neighboring properties.

For these reasons, I would not recommend allowing the presence of quail flocks within the City of Dickinson. If residents would be allowed to do so, I believe this would lead to nuisance complaints from neighboring properties as well as an increase in the numbers of rodents and predators in the areas where quail are present.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kevin Pavlish, EHP
Southwestern District Health Unit