City and County of Broomfield Prairie Dog Policy

Relocation Permit Application

Non-Residential Property and Private Residential Lots Larger than 5 Acres in Area

In addition to this permit for the City and County of Broomfield, a permit is also required from the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Please provide the following information to the Open Space and Trails Department:

Name of Applicant
Telephone
Fax
Email

Name of Landowner
Telephone
Fax
Email
Address of the Subject Property
Date of Application

Description of Request:
-Current land use of the subject property
-Reason for relocation request
-Number of prairie dogs affected and acreage. If the number exceeds ten prairie dogs, the City and County of Broomfield may require a report from a wildlife biologist to determine the number of prairie dogs on the site. Include a map showing the location of the prairie dogs on the property.

Name of the Relocator
Proposed Relocation Method
Address
Telephone
Fax
Email

Also:
-Describe site preparation
-Describe method of capturing prairie dogs and dusting for fleas
-Describe method of placing prairie dogs on the receiving site
-Describe proposed barriers i.e. material, location and construction method
-Describe proposed means of removing prairie dogs that may remain on the site after the relocation work is finished.

Proposed Release Site:
-Amount of acres needed for the relocation
-Proposed site preparation
-Describe any proposed barriers
-If Broomfield open space is proposed, please submit research completed on other potential private sites for the relocation. This may include documentation of phone calls and/or letters sent to owners of vacant land within Broomfield that may provide a suitable relocation site.
-If City land is used, an endowment fee of $50.00 per prairie dog is required. See Section 5.8 of the complete prairie dog policy for more details.

Please submit proposed relocation schedule

A final report describing how many prairie dogs were relocated and the number of prairie dogs that survived shall be submitted by the permittee to the City within one month of project completion.

Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) Permit:
An approved CDOW permit is also required before the relocation work may begin. Broomfield staff and CDOW staff will work with the project applicant or proposed relocator to facilitate obtaining the CDOW permit. Coordination regarding the capacity to receive prairie dogs on any City and County of Broomfield open space is determined by CDOW at the approximate time of the proposed relocation as climate and site conditions vary over time. The CDOW may be reached at 303-439-9664.

Public Notice:
(See Section 4.2 and 5.2 of the complete prairie dog policy)
No prairie dog relocation shall occur without prior public notice. Such prior notice shall include, at a minimum, 5 days public notice in the local newspaper before any proposed action.

The permit applicant shall also be responsible for providing a list of landowners within 1/4 mile of the existing prairie dog site and release site within 10 days of the relocation.

Specific notice shall also be given to record landowners within 500 feet of the property containing the release site within 10 days of the relocation. Specific notice, by mailing or other direct notice shall also be given to record landowners within 500 feet of the property containing the existing prairie dog site proposed for relocation at least 10 days prior to the proposed action

Public information signs shall be posted at the exiting prairie dog site and the release site to explain the project 10 days before any proposed action. A sign shall be at least 22 inches by 28 inches in size.

The applicant is responsible for furnishing the City with stamped, addressed envelopes for the adjacent landowners, and posting an informational sign at the existing prairie dog site and the proposed release site.

Burrowing Owl Review:
Please attach results of a burrowing owl study for the subject property. See further description below.

Prior to relocation of all or part of a prairie dog colony during the burrowing owl nesting season (March 15 through October 31), the prairie dog town shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist for the presence of burrowing owls. The burrowing owl, which nests in vacant prairie dog burrows, is listed by CDOW as a threatened species in Colorado and protected by USFWS under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. If burrowing owls are found to be nesting within a prairie dog town, the City shall postpone any relocation or control measures until after the nesting season. If postponing prairie dog relocation or control would represent an undue hardship for the City or its citizens, the City may apply to USFWS for authorization to implement the proposed action during the nesting season. For more information please review section 4.9 of the complete prairie dog policy.

Additional Signage and Notice for Follow up Lethal Control:

All lethal control projects on public land will now have signage at the extermination site to notify the public that prairie dog management is occurring. The signage will state that a pesticide or toxicant is being used for prairie dog management and that the area is temporarily closed to the public. In the case of a control project along a trail, the trail will be closed in the area being treated and will be signed at any trail entrances into the area. The public notice signage for both carbon monoxide and aluminum phosphide must be posted 24 hours before the treatment begins. In cases where carbon monoxide is used, the signage must be posted for 24 hours after treatment and in cases where aluminum phosphide is used, the public notice signage is required for 72 hours after treatment. Please refer to the administrative changes and policy adjustments regarding signage, public notice, and area closures. This information is available at the Open Space and Trails website at: http://www.broomfield.org/openspace/pdog_admin_summary.shtml.

Relocation Costs:
If the City approves a request to relocate prairie dogs to City Open Space, the requesting party shall be required to pay for all site preparation, relocation, and monitoring costs, a burrowing owl study (if required), and costs associated with public notice. Site preparation may include, but is not limited to, weed control, mowing of vegetation, and construction of dispersal barriers.

In addition to paying costs associated with moving prairie dogs to City Open Space from commercial or industrial land or from any land under review by the City for development—

including the costs of public notice—the requesting party shall be assessed a "prairie dog management endowment fee." The fee shall be $50 for each prairie dog either relocated to an approved City release site. The fee does not apply to private landowners that relocate their prairie dogs on their own property.

Please review the complete Prairie Dog Policy before applying for this permit or taking any action. The policy is available at the Open Space and Trails Department at the Municipal Building or online at: www.ci.broomfield.co.us/openspace/