



BACKYARD CHICKENS

Summary of requirements from City Code Section [92.31 Keeping](#)

- 1) Up to six (6) backyard chickens are allowed on residential property provided that the following conditions are met:
 - a. The keeper of the chickens resides at the property where they are kept.
 - b. The property is a minimum of 10,000 square feet.
 - c. The property owner obtains a backyard chicken permit from the city.
 - d. The chickens are kept in an enclosed coop meeting the requirements specified in 2.), below.

- 2) Backyard chickens must have access to an enclosed coop that adequately protects them from extreme heat or cold and is in compliance with the following standards:
 - a. Located in the rear yard and setback a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from the principal structure and property lines
 - b. Minimum of four (4) square feet per animal with a maximum of forty (40) square feet in total
 - c. Height does not exceed ten (10) feet
 - d. The roof type and pitch, exterior color and exterior materials are similar to the principal structure
 - e. Prohibited building materials include: plywood, sheet metal, cages, wire panels, and other materials intended to be temporary
 - f. The floor must be a constructed of an impervious surface such as vinyl, tile, concrete, or treated wood.
 - g. Adequate maintenance and upkeep

- 3) Backyard chickens shall have access to a run (a fully enclosed and covered area attached the coop where chickens can roam unsupervised) meeting the following minimum standards:
 - a. Setback a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from the principal structure and property lines
 - b. Adequate drainage to mitigate the accumulation of moisture.
 - c. Prohibited building and fencing materials include: tires, pallets, various kinds of metal and steel, household items, makeshift or flimsy materials, farm animal fencing, canvas or tarps, chicken wire, barbed wire, plastic webbing or netting, snow fences, etc.
 - d. Landscaping along the perimeter of the run to shield view of the run from adjacent properties.
 - e. Adequate maintenance and upkeep

- 4) Minimum standards of sanitation to prevent nuisance conditions and promote health of chickens are as follows:
 - a. Slaughtering of backyard chickens on the premises is prohibited.
 - b. Leg banding is required as a form of identification.

- c. No chicken or chicken byproducts shall be sold in residential districts.
 - d. Proper maintenance and cleanliness measures shall be implemented to mitigate filth, garbage, odors, manure accumulation, or substances that attract rodents.
 - e. All grain shall be kept indoors in a rodent proof container.
- 5) Backyard Chicken Permit submittal requirements include:
- a. A completed permit application
 - b. \$20.00 permit fee (cash or check only)
 - c. A site plan indicating the location proposed for the coop and run
 - d. Sufficient detail demonstrating conformance with coop and run requirements
- 6) The permit expires each year on December 31st and must be renewed prior. The annual permit fee is \$20.00 (cash or check only). The Planning Department shall sign off on each renewal and provide applicant with an updated copy of the permit. Keepers must notify the city in writing if backyard chickens will no longer be kept at the property.
- 7) Failure to comply with the conditions outlined above may result in permit revocation.