

# KEEPING CHICKENS in the TOWNSHIP OF NORTH DUMFRIES

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## Regulations You Need to Know Before Applying

- ❖ Only permitted for single-detached residential lots.
- ❖ You must have a residential lot size of at least 0.5 acres (or 2000m<sup>2</sup>) to qualify for this pilot project. Lots smaller than the minimum requirement **do not qualify** to have backyard hens.
- ❖ Residential lots that are between 0.5 acres to 2 acres in size may have no more than four (4) hens registered on the property.
- ❖ Residential lots that are greater than 2 acres may have no more than ten (10) hens registered on the property.
- ❖ You may only have female hens (no roosters) that are at least four (4) months old.
- ❖ The sale of eggs and other products associated with the keeping of chickens is not permitted.
- ❖ The home slaughter of hens is not permitted.
- ❖ Chicken food supply must be protected against pests and other animals.

## Coop Regulations and Sanitation

- ❖ The coop and the run for the hens must be fully enclosed with its own fencing, roof and door in which the hens must remain in to prevent escaping or being at large. This also provides protection from pests and predators and acts as a measure of increased biosecurity.
- ❖ Coop must provide protection from weather and be adequately ventilated.
- ❖ Feed must be stored in rodent-proof containers and secured at all times to prevent rodents and other animals from accessing it.
- ❖ Deceased chickens must be disposed at a livestock disposal facility, or through the services of a veterinarian, or through a facility as approved by the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs.
- ❖ All properties **must** be inspected prior to purchasing any chickens.
- ❖ The hens may be permitted outside the hen coop and run between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. daily, provided that the hen's wings are clipped, the owner is present, and all feces are removed daily.

You are accountable for the health and welfare of your hens. Failure to do so could be considered an act of animal cruelty.

## Setback Regulations

- ❖ The coop must be located in the rear yard at least 7.6 m (or 25 feet) from the rear lot line, interior or exterior side yard.

## What to Include in Your Urban Hens Permit Package:

- ❖ Pilot Registration Form
- ❖ Neighbour Notification Form
- ❖ Health Management Plan (approved by a poultry veterinarian)
- ❖ Application Fee

Please note that staff reserve the right to reject any application received. Applications received that are incomplete, or misleading may be grounds for staff to reject your application. Additional standards may also be established.

## Questions?

Contact the Clerks Office at 519-632-8800 for more information