



City of Fairbury

Fairbury...Where our history provides a vision for the future

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201 West Locust Street, P.O. Box 228, Fairbury, Illinois 61739

MAYOR David Slagel • CITY CLERK Alex Reis • CITY TREASURER Dale Diller • CITY SUPERINTENDENT Brett Ashburn • CHIEF OF POLICE Robert McCormick

Fees: \$50 new license/\$25 renewal

cc: Property Owner, Hens Owner, Police Dept

Date of revocation: _____

Chicken Coop License Application

License No.: _____

Date of Application: _____

Name of Applicant: _____

Address where hens will reside: _____

Applicant must be the property owner.

Are you the property owner? Y N

Owner Signature _____

Is this application for your renter? Y N

Signature of hens owner _____

The resident where the hens will reside
assumes all responsibility for the care and
maintenance
of the hens, according to Chapter 14 of
the Municipal Code Book of the City of Fairbury

Phone number of hens owner _____

Section below to be completed by City staff

COOP shall be a min of 4 sq ft per hen. RUN shall be a min of 8 sq ft per hen

Coop Dimensions: LENGTH: _____ WIDTH: _____ TOTAL FT: _____

Run Dimensions: LENGTH: _____ WIDTH: _____ TOTAL FT: _____

Number of hens: _____ (minimum of 4 and maximum of 10)

COOP AND RUN shall be at least 10 ft from property line and at least 20 ft from neighboring
structures: Distance of coop and run from property line _____ from neighboring structure _____

Adequate ventilation, shade, protection from weather, predators and wild birds? Y N

Windows and doors covered by wire mesh, chicken wire or screens? Y N

Run attached to coop or surround the coop? Y N Feed container enclosed? Y N

Run enclosed on all sides, including the top? Y N

CHICKEN COOP LICENSE APPROVED BY: _____

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

TITLE _____

\$50 FEE COLLECTED: _____

.12 HENS

.13 DEFINITIONS.

Chicken – An individual animal of the species *Gallus gallus domesticus*.

Hen – The female of the species *Gallus gallus domesticus* or chicken.

Rooster – The male of the species *Gallus gal/us domesticus* or chicken.

Coop - A structure that is designed to house hens which is enclosed on all sides with a roof, door, and windows. A mobile coop will be considered a chicken coop. Also referred to as a 'coop'.

Run -An outdoor area that is enclosed on all vertical sides by fencing. The run must be attached to or must surround a chicken coop with a doorway or hatch that allows access into the space by chickens. Also referred to as a 'paddock'.

Nesting box – A box provided for a hen to make its nest in.

Dwelling – Any building or portion thereof, but not a trailer, which is designed for or used for residential purposes, including single-family, two-family, multiple dwellings and apartment houses - but not including hotels, motels boarding or lodging houses.

Dwelling, single-family- A building designed for or occupied exclusively by one family.

Dwelling, two-family – A building designed for or occupied exclusively by two families.

Yard, front – A yard extending across the front of a lot and measured between the street and the uncovered steps, uncovered balconies, or uncovered porch.

Yard, rear – A yard extending across the rear of a lot between the rear lot line and the rear of the main building or any projections thereof other than the projections of uncovered steps, unenclosed balconies or unenclosed porches. On all lots the rear yard shall be at the opposite end of the lot from the front yard.

Yard, side – A yard between the main building and the side line of the lot, extending from the front yard to the rear yard line.

Lot – A parcel of land occupied or intended for occupancy by a use permitted in this Ordinance, including one main building together with any accessory building, the open spaces and parking spaces required by this Ordinance, and have its principal frontage upon a street or upon an officially approved place.

.14 LICENSING.

(a) No person shall possess a hen in the City of Fairbury until a license has been issued as set forth in this section by the City of Fairbury.

(b) The City may deny a license to any person who:

1. Is delinquent to the City of Fairbury past 30 days; or
2. Has, in the last ten (10) years prior to application for a license under this section, been convicted or plead guilty to any violation of chapter 06 (Refuse & Garbage), chapter 07 (Offenses against Public Peace, Safety & Morals), Chapter 09 (Parks & Playgrounds), Chapter 13 (Nuisances), Chapter 14 (Animals), or the Zoning Code.

(c) Licenses will only be granted to persons who reside on parcels with single-family and two-family dwellings.

(d) Only one license will be issued per zoning lot.

(e) Property considered for boundaries, property lines or square footage must be in a single zoning lot.

.15 APPLICATION PROCESS.

(a) Applications to obtain a license to keep hens shall be submitted on a form provided by the City Clerk. Applicants shall provide the City Clerk with proof that a copy of the application has been provided to the owners of all property abutting on the applicant's property.

(b) Neighbor approval of that application is not required.

(c) Inspections. Before a license will be issued, the licensee submits to an initial inspection of the coop and run to determine the licensee's compliance to the standards established herein.

.16 COSTS.

The license shall initially cost \$50.00. Licenses must be renewed annually and shall cost \$25.00 after the first year. Payments must be made to the City of Fairbury.

.17 LICENSE TERMS.

- a) The licensee must be the owner of the property where the hens will reside.
- b) (b) All licenses pursuant to this section shall be valid for one year, following the City's fiscal year. (May 1st – April 30th) If the licensee is found to be in violation of the standards outlined in this section and does not become compliant within seven (7) days, the license will be allowed to either expire at the end of the period or immediately terminated. A new license will only be issued after the coop and run have been inspected and approved.
- c) (c) The number of hens allowed per license shall be a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of ten (10).
- d) (d) Roosters are not allowed in the City.
- e) (e) For each additional 5,000 square feet of property over 5,000 square feet one (1) additional hen shall be allowed up to a maximum of ten (10).
- f) *(Example: 10,000 square foot lot could have 5; 15,000 square foot lot could have 6; 20,000 square foot lot could have 7....)*

.18 CONFINEMENT OF HENS.

(a) Confinement of hens shall follow the following provisions:

- 1. No hen shall be permitted to run at large.
- 2. Hens shall be kept in a designated coop or run. Hens may be allowed to exercise in a rear yard with a four foot (4') or higher fence under supervision.
- 3. Hens must be kept in coops from dusk until dawn.

.19 COOPS & RUNS.

(a) Housing for hens shall follow the following provisions:

- 1. A building permit is required.
- 2. The coop and run are allowed in the rear yard only. See diagram labeled YARD DESCRIPTION in Zoning Code.
- 3. The coop and run shall be located at least ten feet (10') from the property line and at least twenty feet (20') from any neighboring dwelling.
- 4. The coop must be built to provide adequate ventilation, shade, protection from precipitation, protection from cold weather, and to be secure from predators and wild birds. Coops and runs shall be adequate for the purpose, kept in good repair and shall not be allowed to become unsightly.
- 5. Openings in windows and doors must be covered by wire mesh, chicken wire, or screens to deter predators.
- 6. Access doors must be sized and placed for ease of cleaning.
- 7. The run must be attached to the coop or must surround the coop. The sides of the run must be made of chicken wire, fencing or wire mesh that discourages predators or escaping hens.
- 8. The run must be enclosed on all sides, including the top or roof plane.
- 9. The coop shall provide a minimum of four (4) square feet of floor area per hen. The run shall provide a minimum of eight (8) square feet of floor area per hen. The coop shall provide one (1) nesting box per hen.
- 10. Coops must not exceed one-hundred and twenty (120) square feet.
- 11. Coops must not exceed eight (8) feet in height.

12. The run or paddock shall be no less than thirty-two (32) square feet in area.

.20 COOP & RUN MAINTENANCE.

- (a) The coop and run shall be kept in a clean, dry and sanitary condition at all times. Manure, uneaten and discarded feed, feathers and other waste must be removed regularly and at a minimum of once per week from the property by the property owner. Chicken manure is prohibited from the City garbage collection.
- (b) Carcasses of deceased hens must be removed within twenty-four (24) hours of death from the property.
- (c) The slaughtering of hens is permitted but must be done within an enclosed building.
- (d) Feed must be stored in a fully enclosed, rodent proof container inside an enclosed building.

.21 NON-RENEWAL OR TERMINATION OF LICENSE.

- (a) If a license issued under the terms of this article is not renewed by the licensee, or is terminated by the appropriate City officials, the owner of the property on which the coop and hens are located shall, within seven (7) days, remove all hens from the City of Fairbury and remove the coop and any other related facilities from the premises.
- (b) If the licensee chooses to annul the license by his or her own choosing before the licensee's designated expiration date, they shall notify the City Clerk's office within seven (7) days of the decision.

.22 PETITIONS OF COMPLAINT.

- (a) Whenever any person shall complain to the Police Department regarding the noise, odor or unsightliness of hens, a coop, or a run, being kept by any person in the City, the Police Department shall notify the owner of said hens, coop, or run that a complaint has been received and that the person should take whatever steps are necessary to become compliant with the standards set herein within seven (7) days from notification of complaint to property owner.

.23 POWER OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL.

- (a) The Mayor and City Council shall have the power to issue an order prohibiting the keeping of hens, including the abolishment of this ordinance, if a health hazard has been shown at a hearing presided by the Mayor and City Council to pose a safety issue to the public.
- (b) The Mayor and City Council have the ultimate authority to deny or revoke any licenses for any licensees found not to be in compliance in the standards and regulations set forth in this section.

.24 TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully or maliciously inflict unnecessary or needless cruelty, torture, abuse or cruelly beat, strike or abuse any animal, or by an act of omission or neglect, cause or inflict any unnecessary or unjustifiable pain, suffering, injury, or death to any animal.

.25 PENALTY.

- (a) A person found to be keeping hens without a license will have seven (7) days from notification to achieve compliance with these standards. The initial license fee will increase to \$100.
- (b) Hens, a coop or a run not maintained according to the standards set herein shall be deemed a public nuisance, and punishment will be issued as outlined in Chapter 13 - Nuisances.
- (c) The licensee is subject to the following additional penalty:

- 1. If the licensee is found to be in violation of the standards set herein, three or more times,

the license will be immediately and permanently revoked.

2. If the licensee is found to have abandoned their hens, they will be subject to a fine not exceeding seven-hundred and fifty (\$750) dollars, depending on the severity of the abandonment.

(d) Any person found to be in violation of any section pertaining to dogs shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. For any dog not carrying a tag certifying to his inoculation in accordance with the provision hereof, \$5.00. (1999-1)
2. For any other violation pertaining to dogs: amended 2003-12
 - (a) \$20.00 for the first offense. (1999-1)
 - (b) Each offense thereafter shall be considered a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of at least \$75.00 but not to exceed \$750.00. (1999-1)
3. If legal action is required to collect fines for the above described offenses, the owner of the offending dog shall be responsible for any cost and fees incurred to collect said fine. (1999-1)