

TITLE 500 – ANIMAL REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 520 – CHICKENS

- A. **DEFINITIONS.** The term “chicken coop” means a temporary structure for housing chickens made of wood or other similar materials that provides shelter from the elements. The term “chicken run” means an enclosed outside yard for keeping chickens. The term “premises” means any platted lot or group of contiguous lots, parcels, or tracts of land. Must be removed from the property if not housing chickens.
- B. **CHICKENS LIMITED.** It is unlawful for any person to keep or harbor chickens on any premises without a permit. No permit should be issued for the keeping or harboring of more than six hen chickens on any premises. No permit shall be issued for the keeping of any rooster chicken on any premises.
- C. **PERMIT.** No person shall maintain a chicken coop and run unless they have been granted a permit. The permit shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this chapter and any additional conditions deemed necessary by the Council to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the animal. The necessary permit applications are available in the City Clerk’s office. Included with the completed application must be a scaled diagram that indicates the location of any chicken coop and run, the approximate size and distance from adjoining structures and property lines and approval from 50 percent of the adjacent property owners. A fee of \$10.00 will be charged for each permit which shall expire on December 31st of each year of the permit.
- D. **CONFINEMENT.** Every person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains, or harbors hen chickens must keep them always confined while in the City, in a chicken coop or chicken run. Any coop and run shall be screened with a solid fence or landscaped buffer with minimum height of four feet. Any coop and run shall be at least 25 feet from any residential structure on any other premises and no closer than 10 feet from the property line.
- E. **CHICKEN COOPS.** All chicken coops and runs must be located at least 25 feet from any dwelling on any other premises and must not exceed six feet in total height. Chicken runs may be enclosed with wood and/or woven wire materials and allow chickens to contact the ground. Chicken feed must be kept in rodent and raccoon-proof containers.
- F. **CONDITIONS.** No person who owns, keeps, or harbors hen chickens shall permit the premises where the hen chickens are kept, to be or become unhealthy, unsanitary, or noxious condition or to permit the premises to be in such condition that noxious odors are carried to adjacent public or private property. Any chicken coop and run may be inspected at any reasonable time by a City animal control official or other agent of the city.

G. PENALTY. A Violation is a misdemeanor. Refer to Chapter 518 – Penalty.

Amended by the Spring Grove City Council this 3rd day of May 2011. Policy was reviewed on April 20, 202.

Scott Solberg
Mayor

Attest: _____
Julie Amundson
City Clerk/Administrator