

CITY OF OTSEGO



CHICKEN PERMIT

Name: _____ Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____ Owner Occupied? _____

Property Size in Acres: _____ # of Chickens: _____ Fee Paid (office use only): _____

Residents of the City of Otsego are eligible to apply for a permit to raise chickens in compliance with this Chapter. The City Manager is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of this Section. Applications shall be submitted to the City Manager or his or her designee to determine if the applicant demonstrates compliance with the requirements of this Code and regulations promulgated by the City Manager as authorized herein. The decision of the City Manager regarding an application submitted under this section is final.

No person shall possess chickens without first securing a permit from the City and pay the permit fee. Permits shall be obtained on an annual basis and permits shall be accompanied by an inspection by the City Manager (or their designee) to ensure that all conditions within the ordinance are met. An inspection may be waived for a renewal permit with City Manager's approval (based on a history of and continuation of compliance).

Please include a site plan showing dimensions and location of hen house and chicken coop in relation to applicant's house and property lines.

I understand the attached restrictions and am submitting this application in compliance with Section 6 of the City of Otsego Code.

Applicant Signature (Property Owner)

Date

"THE GREATEST SMALL TOWN IN MICHIGAN!"

Chickens

1. **Where Permitted.**
 - i. The keeping of chickens shall not be permitted on a lot less than .4 acres in size.
 - ii. Chickens shall not be kept only within an enclosed area with access to a henhouse and not within any residence.
 - iii. Chickens shall be permitted only within R-A and R-B zoning districts, and only on a lot containing a single-family dwelling located within those districts. No person shall allow chickens to be kept on a lot containing a multi-family dwelling.
 - iv. Chickens must be kept in an enclosure located in the rear yard of the property.
2. **Permit Required.** No person shall permit the keeping of chickens without first securing a permit from the City on a form provided and without paying a permit fee as prescribed from time to time by the Otsego City Council.
3. **Chickens to be kept by occupants only.** Chickens may only be kept by an occupant of a dwelling unit located on the real property on which the chickens are kept.
4. **Number and type of chickens allowed.** Except as permitted in this paragraph, no more than six (6) chickens at any time shall be allowed. Only hens are allowed. Roosters are not permitted. For properties over one (1) acre, the owner may have up to 10 chickens.
5. **Non-commercial use.** Chickens are only for personal use. No person shall sell eggs or engage in chicken breeding or fertilizer production for commercial purposes. The slaughtering of chickens is prohibited.
6. **Enclosures.** Chickens must be kept in an enclosed henhouse or fenced in chicken pen at all times. Chickens must be secured within the henhouse during non-daylight hours. Henhouses must be clean, dry and odor free, kept in a neat and sanitary condition at all times, in a manner that will not disturb the use or enjoyment of neighboring lots due to noise, odor or other adverse impacts. No exterior lighting shall spill onto adjacent properties. The henhouse and chicken pen must provide adequate ventilation and adequate sun and shade and must both be impenetrable to rodents, wild birds, and predators, including dogs and cats.
7. **Henhouses.** Henhouses shall be provided and shall be designed to provide safe and healthy living conditions for the chickens while minimizing adverse impacts to other residents and the neighborhood.
 - i. The structure shall be enclosed and secured on all sides and shall have a roof, floor and doors. Access doors must be able to shut and locked at night. Opening windows and vents must be covered with predator and bird proof wire of less than one-inch openings.
 - ii. The materials used in making the structure shall be uniform for each element of the structure such that the walls are made of the same materials, the roof has the

"THE GREATEST SMALL TOWN IN MICHIGAN!"

same shingles or other covering, and any windows or openings are constructed using the same materials. The use of scrap, waste board, sheet metal, or similar materials is prohibited. The henhouse shall be well maintained and kept in a clean and sanitary manner at all times.

- iii. The structure shall be painted; the color shall be uniform around the structure and shall be in harmony with the surrounding area.
 - iv. The maximum size of the henhouse may not exceed twenty-five (25) square feet or eight (8) feet in height.
 - v. The henhouse shall only be located in the rear yards. In no case, may a henhouse be placed in the side or front yards. The henhouse must be located no less than twenty (20) feet from the owner's dwelling and no less than thirty-five (35) feet from any neighbors dwelling and ten (10) feet from any property line. Henhouses may be moveable, only if the dimensional restrictions contained in this ordinance are held in compliance.
8. **Chicken pens.** An enclosed chicken pen must be provided attached to the henhouse consisting of sturdy wire and fencing buried at least twelve (12) inches in the ground, or may include a floor made of the same material as the pen secured completely to all sides. The chicken pen must be covered with wire, Avery netting, or solid roofing. The use of chicken wire is not permitted. The chicken pen is limited to no more than forty (40) square feet in area. The chicken pen must also include a self-latching door. The first eighteen (18) inches of the chicken pen must be made of sight obscuring material or screened with sight obscuring landscaping around all sides. The chicken pen must meet the same setback requirements as the henhouse.
9. **Odor and noise impacts.** Odors from chickens, chicken manure or other chicken related substances shall not be perceptible at the property boundaries, in conformance with the City's nuisance ordinance. Perceptible odor shall be abated within 48 hours of notification by the City of violation. Perceptible noise from chickens shall not be loud enough at the property boundaries to disturb neighboring property owners in conformance with the City's nuisance ordinance. Perceptible noise shall be abated within 48 hours of notification by the City of violation.
10. **Predators, rodents, insects and parasites.** The property owner shall take the necessary action to reduce the attraction of predators and rodents and the potential infestation of insects and parasites. Chickens found to be infested with insects and parasites that may result in unhealthy conditions to human habitation must be treated immediately.
11. **Feed and water.** Chickens must be provided with access to clean feed and water at all times; such feed and water shall be unavailable to rodents, wild birds and predators.
12. **Waste storage and removal.** Provisions must be made for the storage and removal of chicken manure. All stored manure shall be covered by a fully enclosed structure with a roof or lid over the entire structure. No more than three (3) cubic feet of manure shall be stored on site at any time.