

**Sec. 5-130. Definitions.**

In this article, the following terms have the stated meanings:

*"Chicken or domesticated chicken"* means a subspecies of the species *Gallus domesticus*.

*"Coop"* means the structure for the keeping or housing of chickens.

*"Hen"* means a female chicken.

*"Rooster"* means a male chicken.

*"Run"* means an enclosed and covered area attached to the coop where the chickens can roam unsupervised.

(Ord. No. 639, § 2, 3-11-19)

**Sec. 5-131. Purpose of ordinance.**

The purpose of this article is to provide minimum standards for the keeping of domesticated chickens. This article enables residents to keep chickens on a non-commercial basis as an accessory use to a residence, while limiting the adverse effects of the activity on surrounding properties. Such adverse effects can include noise, odors, unsanitary conditions, attraction of predators, chickens running at large, unsightly conditions, and similar adverse conditions.

(Ord. No. 639, § 2, 3-11-19)

**Sec. 5-132. Permit required.**

- (a) No person shall maintain or keep domesticated chickens without a permit issued by the city. Properties exceeding ten acres where agriculture is a permitted use are exempt from the permit requirements of this article.
- (b) Application for a permit required by article shall be made to the city upon a form furnished by the city. A nonrefundable fee in the amount established by ordinance shall be paid to the city when the application is filed.
- (c) In order to be issued a permit the applicant must:
  - (1) Have as the principal use of the property a single-family residential structure.
  - (2) Submit a notarized statement to the city stating that they have informed all adjoining neighbors that they intend to keep chickens.
  - (3) Not have had a prior chicken permit revoked by the City of Chanhassen.
  - (4) Meet the density and setback requirements listed in section 5-133.

(Ord. No. 639, § 2, 3-11-19; Ord. No. 671, § 5-24-2021)

**Sec. 5-133. Density and setbacks.**

(a) No person is permitted to keep more than the following numbers of chickens on any lot within the city, based upon the size of the parcel:

- (1) Lots less than one acre: Four (4) Chickens.
- (2) Lots one acre or larger but smaller than 2½ acres: Eight (8) chickens.
- (3) Lots 2½ acres or larger but smaller than ten acres: Sixteen (16) chickens.
- (4) Lots larger than ten acres: No limit.

(b) The coop and attached run must be located in the rear yard and must be set back a minimum of 25 feet from all adjacent residences that are not occupied by the applicant, and be set back a minimum of ten feet from any lot line.

- (1) On corner lots, coops and runs may not be located in any yard with street frontage.
- (2) On double frontage lots, coops and runs may not be located in any required front yard.

(Ord. No. 639, § 2, 3-11-19; Ord. No. 671, § 5-24-2021)

**Sec. 5-134. Standards of practice.**

The following standards of practice apply to all properties governed by this article:

- (1) No roosters or crowing hens are allowed.
- (2) No outdoor butchering of chickens is allowed.
- (3) Chickens must be kept in a coop or run whenever they are unsupervised; however when supervised they are allowed in a fenced area.
- (4) The coop must:
  - a. Be maintained in good condition.
  - b. Be enclosed and constructed of durable materials to prevent entry by predators or the escape of chickens.
  - c. Be built to protect the chickens from extreme heat or cold.
  - d. Provide at least four square feet per chicken.
- (5) The run must:
  - a. Be maintained in good condition.
  - b. Be attached to the coop.
  - c. Be enclosed and constructed of durable materials to prevent entry by predators or the escape of chickens.
  - d. Provide at least four square feet per chicken.

- (6) The chicken's living area must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (7) Odor shall not be perceptible at the lot line.
- (8) All stored manure shall be placed within a fully enclosed container. All manure not used for composting or fertilizing shall be removed weekly. The coop and run must be kept free from trash and accumulated manure.
- (9) Feed must be stored in a rodent-proof container inside of a structure.
- (10) No person may keep any chickens inside a house.

(Ord. No. 639, § 2, 3-11-19)

**Sec. 5-135. Revocation of permit.**

A chicken permit issued under this article may be revoked by the community development director if it is determined after an inspection by city staff that the permit holder has not maintained the standards set forth in section 5-134 or that chickens are being kept in such a manner as to constitute a public nuisance.

(Ord. No. 639, § 2, 3-11-19)

**Secs. 5-136—5-160. Reserved.**