

KEEPING CHICKENS



REGISTRATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE CRITERIA ENCLOSED HAVE BEEN MET. PLEASE VISIT THE CENTRAL PERMIT FACILITY TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION.

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KEEPING CHICKENS

Hens (female chickens) may be kept as an accessory use on single family residential lots. The number of hens allowed is based on the lot size, as follows:



Management Practices

- Roosters are not allowed on non-exempt properties.
- Coops must be covered with uniform materials and be maintained intact with all parts secure. Any repairs must maintain consistency with the original structure in appearance and condition. The coop or yard fencing must be replaced, removed, or repaired upon evidence of deterioration.
- Coops and yards must be cleaned on a regular basis, so they remain free from accumulated waste causing odors reasonably detectable on adjacent properties.
- All feed for hens must be stored in tightly fitted containers that are rodent-proof.
- Outdoor slaughter of chickens is not allowed.

Minimum Lot Size	Maximum Number of Hens Allowed
None	4
10,000 square feet	6
20,000 square feet	8
40,000 square feet	10
80,000 square feet	12
200,000 square feet	No Limit, if AG Exempt



Chicken Coop

Coops must provide at least 3 square feet per hen and allow the hens easy access to an enclosed chicken yard. Coops may be freestanding or integrated into an accessory structure. Freestanding coops shall not exceed 8 feet in height.



Chicken Yard

- Coops must be connected with an enclosed chicken yard or run.
- Wire mesh fencing materials must retain a flat and uniform plane and be maintained in a safe condition.
- Hens may be allowed to roam within a fenced back yard, but not outside of the fenced yard.

Setbacks



Street Side

Chicken coops and yards may not be located between the dwelling and any improved road right-of-way or transportation easement.



Neighboring Structures

In addition to setback requirements for accessory structures, chicken coops must be located at least thirty (30) feet away from any existing structures on any adjoining parcel, such as dwellings, non-residential buildings, patios, decks, or swimming pools, but not including storage structures such as garages or sheds.



Per the Illinois Department of Agriculture, those wishing to keep hens on their premises are advised to complete a Livestock Premises Registration. Visit <http://www.agr.state.il.us/premiseid/> for more information.