



PART II - CODE  
Chapter 4 - ANIMALS  
ARTICLE III. CHICKEN KEEPING

---

## **ARTICLE III. CHICKEN KEEPING**

### **Sec. 4-51. Definitions.**

*Chicken-keeping* means the keeping of hens (*Gallus domesticus*). Chickens shall not include any male chicken or rooster, any duck, goose, turkey, peafowl, guinea fowl or other poultry or fowl.

(Ord. No. 2022-05-633, § 3, 11-15-22)

### **Sec. 4-52. Chicken-keeping as an accessory use.**

- (a) Chicken-keeping means the keeping of hens (*Gallus domesticus*). Chickens shall not include any male chicken or rooster, any duck, goose, turkey, peafowl, guinea fowl or other poultry or fowl. Chicken-keeping is a permitted accessory use on single-family residential parcels where the lot or parcel is occupied by a single-family detached residence. Chickens shall not be permitted at residential property with a townhome, duplex, condominium, apartment, or other multi-family residential unit. Chicken-keeping in all other zoning districts is also prohibited, except that poultry is permitted on farms in agricultural zoning districts.
- (b) Permission for chicken-keeping within the city limits shall be subject to the following standards and conditions:
  - (1) Chickens shall be kept in a chicken coop and fenced pen area. In order to obtain a permit for chicken-keeping, an applicant shall submit an application for a zoning permit to the community development department, including a scaled drawing showing the location, of the proposed chicken coop and fenced pen area. The chicken coop and fenced pen area shall meet the following requirements:
    - a. The maximum size of the coop and pen area shall be one hundred (100) square feet. A zoning permit shall be required. The application submittal shall show construction materials and methods as well as anchoring methods, such as tie-downs. Mobile coops shall be prohibited unless properly anchored. The coop and pen area shall be solidly constructed and anchored to ground to prevent displacement during a weather event. Permanent means any electrical or plumbing shall not be connected to any coop or pen area without approval from the building official.
    - b. The maximum height of a coop and the pen fence around the coop shall be eight (8) feet, as measured from the existing grade to the highest part of the coop or fence.
    - c. The coop and pen area shall be located in the rear yard of the single-family detached residence and be set back a minimum of eight (8) feet from the side and rear lot lines and a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from any side street, so long as the coop and pen area shall be at least twenty (20) feet from any residential structure on an adjoining lot.
    - d. Chicken coops shall be covered and ventilated, and a fenced pen enclosure/run is required. The coop and pen must be constructed in a way that establishes a clean, safe and pleasant environment free of odor, vermin, noise, and disease.
      1. All enclosures for the keeping of chickens shall be so constructed and maintained as to prevent rodents or other pests from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of the enclosure. Chicken coops must be impermeable to rodents, wild birds, predators and

---

weather, including all openings, ventilation holes, doors and gates. Enclosures shall be kept in neat condition, including provision of clean, dry bedding materials and regular removal of waste materials, so as to not create an odor.

- e. The space per bird in the coop shall not be less than three (3) square feet.
  - f. All chicken feed shall be kept in a secured and covered metal or plastic container, or otherwise protected so as to prevent rodents and other pests from gaining access to it.
  - g. Chicken coops and pens shall be completely screened from adjacent roadways and parcels by a six-foot tall opaque fence, wall, or equivalent landscape vegetative material.
  - h. A signed affidavit is required to be submitted with all chicken-keeping permit petitions. The affidavit shall state that the chicken coop and pen will be designed, constructed and operated to the standards outlined in the City's Code of Ordinances. The affidavit shall also state that the drawings submitted as part of the petition are a reasonably accurate representation of the subject site features and adjacent properties.
- (2) A maximum of six (6) chickens may be kept on a lot or parcel with a detached single-family residence.
  - (3) Only one chicken-keeping permit per single-family residence shall be issued.
  - (4) Chickens shall be housed at all times within a covered coop or fenced pen area, except that they may be removed from the coop or fenced pen area by a resident or visitor of the home, provided the resident keeps them under his or her continuous custody and control while they are outside the coop or fenced pen area.
  - (5) Chickens must be secured within the chicken coop during non-daylight hours (from dusk to dawn).
  - (6) Chickens shall not be permitted to trespass on neighboring properties, run at large, be released or set free at any time.
  - (7) Chickens are allowed to be kept in single-family residential areas for noncommercial purposes. Hens, eggs or manure produced by the chickens shall not be sold or utilized for commercial purposes.
  - (8) Chickens shall not be bred on the premises.
  - (9) All deceased chickens shall be properly disposed of, off-site, within twenty-four (24) hours of expiring.
  - (10) Roosters and poultry or fowl other than chickens shall be prohibited.
  - (11) Nothing herein shall be construed or interpreted to mean that chickens are permitted where private covenants or restrictions prohibit such use, or where rules promulgated under such covenants and restrictions prohibit such use.
  - (12) The city council hereby establishes a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to process petitions for residential chicken-keeping, or such other fee as city council established by resolution. The fee to process the petitions does not include building permit fees required under Chapter 553, Florida Statutes, and the city's fee resolution.

(Ord. No. 2022-05-633, § 3, 11-15-22)

#### **Sec. 4-53. Penalties; additional remedies.**

- (a) The city may enforce this chapter through the code enforcement procedures established in Chapter 12 of the City Code.
- (b) Failure to comply with the provisions of this article regarding chicken-keeping may result in fines or revocation of a chicken-keeping permit. Imposition of a fine or revocation of a permit shall take place upon a

---

finding by the special magistrate or code enforcement board that a permit holder has violated the requirements of this article.

(Ord. No. 2022-05-633, § 3, 11-15-22)