



CITY OF WAUSAU

Chicken Keeping Permit Application

July 1st – June 30th

407 GRANT STREET
WAUSAU WI 54403
(715)261-6620

Application Date: _____ Licensing Year: _____ Date Paid: _____
Permit Fee = \$35.00

Applicant Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Answer the Following Questions	Yes	No	Clerk's Initial proof Rec'd?
1. I have received a copy and read Wausau Municipal Code §8.08.012, regarding the keeping of chickens.			
2. I am the property owner of the above address at which the chickens will be kept and reside on the property as my primary residence.			
3. I have completed the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection "Livestock Premises Registration Application." MY REGISTRATION NUMBER IS: _____.			

I hereby certify the foregoing answers are true and correct. I hereby certify I have obtained a copy of the ordinance and have read and understand the provisions contained in Wausau Municipal Code §8.08.012 pertaining to keeping of chickens. I certify I have met the requirements of the ordinance and will continue to comply with all provisions of that code as long as chickens are kept on my property. Inspection of the chickens and coop located on the premises shall be permitted at any time.

I understand that failure to keep chickens in accordance with the provisions of Wausau Municipal Code §8.08.012 or any false information provided in this Application subject me to revocation of my permit to keep chickens within the City limits.

I understand approval of this Application allows me to keep up to four (4) hens and NO ROOSTERS.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date of Inspection: _____

Issues or conditions to be corrected:

Approved: _____ (date) Denied: _____ (date)

Humane Officer: _____ Date: _____

PH&S Committee Approved: _____ (date) Denied: _____ (date)

8.08.012 Keeping of chickens.

- (a) Permit required. No person shall keep chickens or establish or maintain any henhouse upon any premises in the City without obtaining a valid permit issued by the City Clerk.
 - (1) A permit shall be valid for a period of one-year from July 1 through June 30, and may be renewed annually.
 - (2) The permit process requires submission of a completed application accompanied with a fee as provided in section 3.40.010(a) and shall include proof of registration with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection in accordance with Wis. Stats. § 95.51.
 - (3) A late fee of two times the application fee along with the application fee as provided in section 3.40.010(a) shall be collected from every owner or keeper of chickens if the owner or keeper fails to obtain a license prior to July 1 of each year, or fails to obtain a license prior to acquiring the chickens.
 - (4) Prior to issuance of a permit, the applicant shall submit to an inspection and demonstrate that all requirements of subsection (b) are met.
 - (5) The holder of a valid permit may keep chickens accordance with this section notwithstanding the prohibitions in section 8.08.010(a) of this Code.
- (b) Standards. A permit authorizes the keeping of chickens on a premises, provided the following requirements are met:
 - (1) No more than four hens or pullets are allowed on a premises.
 - (2) Roosters are prohibited.
 - (3) Chickens may only be kept at a residential zoning lot designated as SR-2, SR-3, SR-5, or SR-7 "Single Family Residential," TF-10 "Two-Flat Residential," or upon a lot designated MR-12, MR-20 or MR-50 "Multi-Family Residential." A permit shall be issued only to the primary owner(s) of record. The property owner shall reside on the premises regulated by the permit.
 - (4) No slaughter of chickens may occur on the premises or within the City other than at a licensed meat processing facility.
 - (5) Chickens may only be kept in a chicken coop or an attached and contiguous run. Between sunrise and sunset, chickens may be allowed outside of the coop into the run. Chickens must be secured within the coop between sunset and sunrise.
 - (6) The chicken coop or run shall only be located within the rear yard of the premises. A chicken coop and run must be located no closer than ten feet to any property line and no closer than 25 feet to any principal residential structure on an adjacent lot.
 - (7) Chicken coops and attached and contiguous runs shall be large enough to provide at least three square feet per chicken and cannot exceed a maximum of 24 square feet in size.
 - (8) Chicken coops and runs shall be constructed in a workmanlike manner, be moisture-resistant and either raised up off the ground or placed on a hard surface such as concrete, patio block or gravel. Chicken coops and runs must be secure and impermeable to rodents, wild birds and predators, including dogs and cats and must be constructed or modified in a fashion to provide a humane environment for the chickens, include adequate ventilation, adequate sun, adequate shade and adequate protection from adverse weather.
 - (9) Commercial activity related to the keeping of chickens is prohibited, including fertilizer production and the sale of eggs.
 - (10) All food supplies maintained for the chickens must be kept in a secure and rodent-proof container.
 - (11) All waste generated by the chickens, operation of the coop and run shall be disposed of in a sanitary manner or composted according to best practices.
 - (12) The care and handling of chickens shall comply with other provisions of chapter 8 of this Code, including but not limited to section 8.08.020, mistreating of animals, and section 8.08.120 providing proper food and drink.
- (c) Permit revocation. A permit shall be subject to revocation upon failure to comply with any provisions of this section. Once a permit is revoked, a permit shall not be issued.
- (d) Upon written request, the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee may consider waiver of any requirement specified in this section on a case by case basis upon a satisfactory showing that such requirement is not necessary for the protection and safety of the public, adjoining property owners, and the surrounding neighborhood in such case.

(e) This ordinance will be administratively reviewed by the Public Health and Safety Committee at its regular meeting which falls one year from the effective date. Such review shall not affect the authorization of this chapter without further action of the Common Council.

(Ord. 61-5793 §1, 2018; Ord. 61-5741 §1, 2017.)

(Ord. No. 61-5877 , § 23, 3-9-2021)