



Office of the Zoning Administrator
3680 STH 60
Slinger, WI 53086
Ph. 262-677-2123
zoning@townofpolk-wi.gov

APPLICATION for KEEPING of CHICKENS LICENSE

*This application and its application fee are required to determine compliance with the **Zoning Ordinance**.*

*This Application **must be completed in full**. The Town of Polk **cannot accept** an incomplete Application Form or an Application Packet lacking all required information.*

Contact Information:

Property Owner: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Applicant (if different from Property Owner): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Property Description:

Address: _____ Parcel ID: _____

Current Zoning: _____ Lot Size: _____ Lot Width: _____

(If additional parcels, please attach as separate sheet)

Current Use of Property: _____

Chickens and Enclosure:

Number of chickens to be kept: _____

Type(s) / Breed(s): _____

Size of covered enclosure: _____ sf. Size of fenced enclosure: _____ sf.

DATCP Registration Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Is this is a renewal of a previously issued license?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, have there been any changes in terms of number or breed of chickens, or size, or location of enclosure from the previous year?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please describe: _____

Site Map:

Please provide description and full dimensions of enclosure and run and include hand-drawn map showing location of enclosure on property, including distances from onsite structures, rights-of-way, and property lines.

Affirmations:

1. *I hereby certify that this application is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge.*
2. *I further certify that the keeping of chickens is for personal, non-commercial use.*
3. *I understand that no commercial sales from the residence or any residential area within the Town is permitted.*
4. *I agree, in the consideration of the issuing of this license, to comply with the laws of the State of Wisconsin and the provisions of Town of Polk Code of Ordinances.*
5. *I understand that the Keeping of Chickens License is valid for one calendar year beginning January 1st and ending December 31st and shall be renewed no later than March 31st for as long as chickens are kept on the property.*
6. *I have reviewed Section 336-103 of the Zoning Ordinance and understand that keeping of chickens shall conform fully with its requirements.*
7. *I understand that the violation of any terms of this License or of the Zoning Ordinance may result in revocation of the License.*

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application Fee:

The Application Fee for a Keeping of Chickens License is **\$25.00**. The Application cannot be accepted until the Application Fee has been paid.

Chapter 336. Zoning

Article IV. Specific Provisions

§ 336-103. Backyard chickens in residential zoning districts.

A. Standards. The keeping of backyard chickens shall comply in all respects with the following:

(1) General.

- (a) No more than eight chickens may be kept.
- (b) The keeping of roosters is prohibited.
- (c) Chickens raised and kept on the property for food shall not be slaughtered in view of adjoining properties.
- (d) Any henhouse and outdoor run that is abandoned or its use discontinued for the keeping of chickens for a period of 365 consecutive days shall be removed from the premises by the property owner.
- (e) Modifications of a henhouse and outdoor run for some other use is prohibited.

(2) Enclosure requirements and prohibitions.

- (a) Chickens shall be provided with a covered enclosure and must be kept in the covered enclosure or a fenced area or run at all times.
- (b) The enclosure shall be adequately ventilated and shall allow free movement of the fowl.
- (c) The size of the henhouse shall provide a minimum of three square feet per chicken.
- (d) The structure shall not be greater than 120 square feet in size.
- (e) The maximum height of the enclosure, including the area of a covered run, shall not exceed eight feet.
- (f) The construction of the enclosure shall utilize a building design and materials suitable for a residential district.
- (g) The enclosure must include a floor.
- (h) The use of dilapidated corrugated metal, dilapidated sheet metal, plastic, polymer or tarp-type material, pallets, scrap materials and/or similar materials shall be prohibited.
- (i) The reuse of storage containers, vehicles, or parts thereof, and similar objects for a henhouse/run are prohibited.

(3) Location.

- (a) The enclosure housing chickens shall be located at least 25 feet from any residential structure on an adjacent lot.

- (b) No henhouse or outdoor run shall be located within 15 feet of any side or rear lot line, and/or sited to obstruct an existing drainage course or create a drainage problem for the property on which it is situated or for any neighboring property.
- (c) No henhouse shall be located within the street yard or primary street yard on a corner lot or double frontage lot.

(4) Level of care.

- (a) Chickens shall be kept in a sanitary condition, be provided with fresh water and adequate amounts of food at all times.
- (b) Chickens shall be secured within a henhouse during nondaylight hours.
- (c) Chickens may not roam free outside of a henhouse or enclosed run or roam off of the permitted property. A dog, cat, or other domesticated animal that kills a chicken off of the permitted property shall not, for that reason alone, be considered a dangerous or aggressive animal.
- (d) All chicken waste shall be properly disposed of in a timely manner.

B. License required.

- (1) An application for "license: backyard chickens" shall be completed and submitted to the Town Clerk.
 - (a) The application shall include a site plan drawing describing the location of the henhouse and outdoor run in relationship to lot boundaries.
 - (b) The license shall be issued only to the primary owner(s) of record of a residence located in the designated residential districts.
 - (c) The property owner/licensee shall reside year-round on the premises regulated by the license.
 - (d) A license shall be issued only to the primary owner(s) of record of a residence located in the designated residential districts.
 - (e) The propagation of chickens for commercial purposes or for any activity or purpose not related to the personal purpose of the license holder, including fertilizer production and/or the sale of eggs, shall be prohibited.
 - (f) The license shall include the standards described in Subsection **B** above.
 - (g) The license shall be approved and issued by the Zoning Administrator.
- (2) Revocation. A license may be revoked by the Plan Commission for failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section.
 - (a) Once revoked, a license shall not be reissued for a two-year period.
 - (b) Any applicant whose application has been denied or license has been revoked under the provisions of this chapter shall have the right to appeal said denial.
 - (c) Any license holder who has his/her license revoked must properly remove the chickens and henhouse/run from the subject property within 96 hours of revocation or decision on appeal.

C. Registration required. The owner, operator, or tenant shall register the premise where chickens are kept with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection as required by state law and maintain such registration for so long as may be required.