

TOWN OF CHESHIRE

BOARD OF HEALTH

191 CHURCH STREET CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS 01225

PHONE (413)743-1690 EXT 106 | EMAIL EXECUTIVEASSISTANT@CHESHIRE-MA.GOV

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Livestock and Poultry Rules and Regulations

Permits must be filed by July 1 of each year

Fees: **\$50.00 Initial Application and Inspection**

\$ 25.00 Yearly Application

Applicant must submit a plot plan showing the location of the secure sheltering structure to ensure that it does not encroach on a neighboring property.

Direct Abutter notification must be made by the applicant; proof of certified mailing is required. Direct abutter lists must be obtained from the Board of Assessors

Only selected domesticated fowl are allowed – HENS, DUCKS, PIGEONS AND DOVES), domesticated rabbits and selected exotic mammals (potbellied pigs and dwarf goats with proper emotional support animal certification) may be raised.

No Roosters, Geese, Swans, Turkeys, Pheasants, Peacocks, Guinea Fowl, Pygmy Goats, Pigs or other livestock is permitted in the R-1 District.

Fowl and Rabbits shall be confined with fencing or other secure enclosures which shall be set at least ten (10) feet from any property lines and twenty (20) feet from residential structures or other property. Within such an enclosure, a minimum of ten (10) square feet of open yard area shall be provided.

Within or attached to any such enclosure shall be provided a secure sheltering structure (coop, hutch, or shed) of a sufficient size to ensure the health and safety of the said livestock or poultry)

Livestock and Poultry are not allowed to FREE RANGE.

Feed must be stored in a secure, rodent and predator proof container with a tight-fitting lid that will not attract pests.

Noxious odors from domesticated fowl and rabbits, their waste, compost, or other related substances shall not be perceptible beyond my property boundaries.

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Noise from the animals, of a loud and persistent and habitual nature, shall not be perceptible beyond the property boundaries.

Report sick chickens to Cheshire Board of Health (413-743-1690) and Massachusetts Department of Food and Agricultural Division of Animal Health (617-626-1792)

Permits expire on June 20th of each calendar year, or unless sooner revoked by the Board of Health upon violation of any provisions of these regulations.

Fines:

1st Offense	\$50
2 nd Offense	\$100 and Possible Permit Revoked
3d Offense	\$200 and Possible Permit Revoked

Adopted: 9/8/25