

CITY OF BATTLE CREEK

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT – PLANNING AND ZONING

Chicken License Application

City of Battle Creek 608.30

Updated: 12/7/23

Date Received: _____

Original License Request

Renewal License Request

APPLICANT (must live at the property where chickens are housed)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Is the property owned or leased/rented? Yes No

If leased/rented, written permission from the property owner must be submitted with application.

Single Family Dwelling Two-Family Dwelling

_____ Number of hens to be kept at the license address.

Will the coop be heated in the winter?: _____

Electrical permit may be needed if using electric source of heat.

Do you agree to be part of a network with other chicken licensee holders and area partner farms that may meet on occasion, provide support to each other, and/or aid in relief of other licensee holders that may need assistance? Yes No

The Chicken License Application (all five pages) shall be submitted at the same time with:

_____ ***Fence/Shed Permit Application (for enclosure and coop)***

_____ ***Drawing and specifications for coop***

City of Battle Creek 608.30 Urban Livestock Ordinance

By initializing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand all terms and agree to comply with ordinance 608.30 Urban Livestock, and any/all other applicable regulations and that I have received a copy for my records.

_____ (a) In addition to livestock otherwise allowed in the AG Agriculture and R-1R Rural Residential zoning districts, urban livestock outlined herein is permitted on single and two-family residential parcels when accessory to a permitted residential use providing they are housed at the premises that is residentially occupied by the owner of the livestock. The care and keeping of urban livestock is subject to restrictions outlined herein, and for accessory buildings, fencing, and nuisance provisions of the Battle Creek Codified Ordinances.

_____ (b) Animal Units / Property Size

The number of hens permitted to be housed at each property will be determined by calculating the allowable animal units (au) based on parcel size.

The number of hens permitted shall be limited to the total square footage of a parcel outlined herein:

LOT SIZE PERMITTED ANIMAL UNITS

5,000 s.f. – 9,999 s.f.	2 au
10,000 – 14,999 s.f.	4 au
15,000 – 29,999 s.f.	6 au
30,000 – 43,559 s.f.	8 au
43,560 s.f. (one acre)	10 au

_____ (c) The following regulations apply based upon the type of urban livestock being housed on a property. In no instance shall urban livestock be kept within one hundred feet of any well, spring, stream, river, lake or water's edge:

(1) Chickens may be kept subject to the following requirements:

_____ a. Hens must be kept in an enclosure, including a fence or corral, in the rear yard that provides at least 10 sq. ft. of space for each hen. The enclosure must be of sufficient type, height, and strength to secure and reasonably assure that the hens will not escape. The enclosure must be at least 20 feet from all adjacent property lines and 40 feet from residential structures located on adjacent properties. The area within the enclosure must be well drained and free from standing water.

_____ b. There shall be a covered, well ventilated, predator proof coop within the enclosure that provides at least 2 sq. ft. per hen, nesting boxes for each three hens, 12 inches of roost per hen, and provides access to the outdoor portion of the enclosure. A coop shall not exceed 8 feet in height.

_____ c. Hens may be allowed to roam outside of the coop or fenced enclosure if within the fully fenced rear yard of the premises housing the hens, and under direct supervision by an adult in the immediate vicinity of the hens.

_____ d. Roosters are expressly prohibited, regardless of the age or maturity of the bird.

_____ (1) All premises on which urban livestock is housed shall be kept clean from filth, garbage, and any substance that attracts rodents. The enclosures and structures shall be clean and sanitary, and odors from animals, manure, or other animal related items shall not be perceptible at the property boundaries.

_____ (2) Adequate fresh feed, water, and bedding must be provided sufficient for the number and type of urban livestock on a parcel.

_____ (3) Feed must be stored in a rodent-proof and weather resistant container located off the ground and in a cool dry place not accessible to animals.

_____ (4) Urban livestock is not allowed to run loose beyond the confines of the rear yard of the premises housing the animals.

_____ (5) Waste shall either be composted with carbonaceous material such as hay, bedding, or leaves and be located 20 feet from all adjoining property lines, or stored in a sealed container until it is removed from the property.

_____ (6) On-site slaughtering of any urban livestock is prohibited.

_____ (e) Permit and License Required. The keeping of urban livestock is subject to zoning permits and inspections for the construction and placement of the enclosures and any structures, and an animal license as outlined herein and in 608.17. A license granted under this section shall be valid for not more than three years and renewable providing the property, property owner, and animals remain in compliance with applicable terms of the ordinance.

_____ (1) One license is required for each property keeping hens. If a rental property, the property owner must issue in writing approval for the application for a license or permit for the keeping of urban livestock. A license will be approved subject to property inspection by Planning/Zoning staff to ensure enclosures and housing for said animals are compliant with requirements of this chapter.

_____ (2) The application for licensure must include a detailed list of all animals to be kept on the property. Any potential increase to the number/type of animals being kept under that licensure must be approved by the City as an amendment to the original license.

_____ (3) There shall be a maximum number of fifty (50) licenses issued for chickens granted in the City of Battle Creek. After the maximum number has been reached, no additional licenses shall be issued.

(4) Denial and Revocation. Permits or licenses may be denied for failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter, if the facilities for the keeping of animals are or become inadequate for their purpose, if the conditions of the permit or license are not met, if a nuisance condition is created, or if the public health and safety would be unreasonably endangered by granting of such license. The City may refuse to grant or may revoke a license if the urban livestock become a nuisance, as evidenced by the third substantiated violation.

(f) Any person who violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter will be subject to the penalties established by section 608.30 of this chapter.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

By signing this application, the applicant hereby declares that all answers given herein are true to the best of their knowledge, and confirms that all information required for submission of a Hen License Application have been submitted. Furthermore, the applicant understands that any approval is based upon the contents of the submitted application and a satisfactory property inspection.

I understand that if the requirements of Ordinance 608.30 are not complied with, the City may revoke any license granted and/or initiate a civil infraction violation. A person who has been issued a license shall submit it for examination upon demand by any police officer, animal control officer, or code enforcement officer.

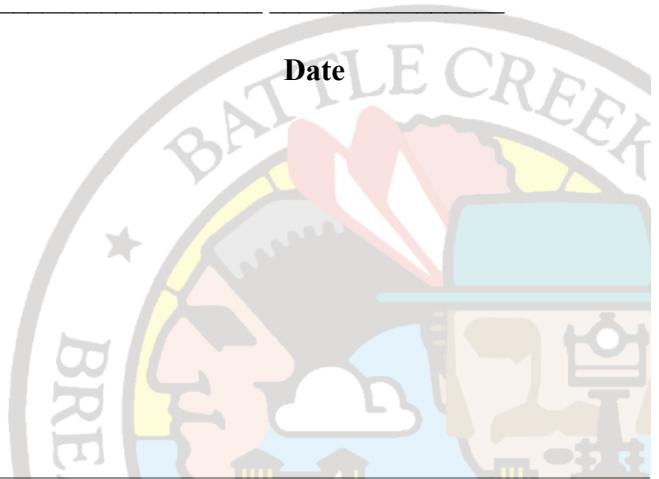
Notwithstanding the issuance of a license by the City, private restrictions on the use of property shall remain enforceable and take precedence over a license. Private restrictions include but are not limited to deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions, neighborhood association by-laws, and covenant deeds. The interpretation and enforcement of the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.

I agree to allow the City access to the property at which the hens will be located in the event of a complaint. Such access to be scheduled in advance and with the licensee present.

(Signature) Applicant Name

(Print Name)

Date



OFFICE USE ONLY:

Lot Size: _____ # of Chickens Allowed: _____

Hen Tag #'s: _____

Inspector Signature: _____

