



Village of Ellsworth
104 School St.
Ellsworth, IL. 61737
P: (309)-724-8412

www.villageofellsworthil.com

Chicken Permit Application Form

No person shall keep or raise any cattle, hogs, sheep, horses, chickens (except as provided herein), ducks, geese, or other livestock or poultry within the corporate limits of the Village except in areas where they have been kept during the year prior to passage of this section. Failure to keep said livestock in an area for a one (1) year period in the future shall terminate this exception for that area. **If a determination is made that answers on this form are untrue, incomplete or deceptive, the permit may be denied or later revoked if issued.**

Residential Properties

- Roosters are prohibited
- Single-family or two-family dwellings are permitted to have female chickens
 - Both the lessor and the lessee must sign the required license
- Zoning lot consisting of multiple platted lots shall be considered one zoning lot
 - ¼ acre: up to maximum of 4 hens
 - ½ acre: up to maximum of 6 hens
 - ¾ acre: up to maximum of 8 hens
 - 1 acre: up to maximum of 10 hens
 - Over 1 acre: up to maximum of 20 hens

Housing

- All hens shall be confined to a coop or a coop with a run, where a run is defined as an outdoor area that is enclosed on all vertical sides and top by fencing that is sufficient to hold chickens.
- Fencing on the vertical side must be 16-gauge or greater.
- Run must be attached to or must surround the chicken coop that includes a doorway or hatch that allows access into the run by chickens.
- Perimeter fencing of the run area must be a minimum of six (6) feet in height, and no top over the run area is required.
- No minimum height for perimeter fencing if top is added.
- Owner is fully responsible for any predators able to enter the coop or run area; the Village will not be responsible or liable for any predators entering the coop or run area.

- Coop must provide ventilation, shade, protection from precipitation, and protection from cold weather.
- Coops with power must be GFI protected.
- All windows and doors, other than access doors for chickens, are open for ventilation, they must be covered by wire mesh or screens to deter predators, wild birds, and rodents.
- Access doors must be sized and placed for ease of cleaning the coop.
- Coop must provide a minimum of four (4) square feet of surface area per hen, and the run shall provide a minimum of eight (8) square feet of surface area per hen.
- Coops and runs are considered “accessory structures” as defined in the Village Zoning Code (Title 9), and coops and runs must meet all standards and regulations as outlined therein.
- A coop or coop with run is not allowed in a front yard.
- Coop or coop with run must be located at least ten (10) feet from the property line.

Sanitation

- The coop or coop with run must be maintained in clean, dry and sanitary conditions at all times.
- Excrement, uneaten or discarded feed, feathers and other waste must be removed at least twice per week.
- Excrement may be stored temporarily, but it must be removed from the property at least once per week.
- Excrement may be composted, but not within thirty (30) feet of a neighboring structure.
- Odors emanating from coops, runs, or composting excrement shall not be detectable from a neighboring dwelling or the area immediately surrounding the dwelling, including any closely associated buildings and structures.
- Neither excrement nor dead hens may be disposed of at a Village disposal site or at a Village landscape waste collection center.
- Feed to be consumed by hens must be stored in a fully enclosed, rodent proof container.

Licensing

- Fee for obtaining a license to keep or harbor hen chickens shall be twenty-four (24) dollars per annum.
- All licenses shall expire on August 31st; therefore, the fee for a license obtained after September 1st shall be prorated to two (2) dollars per month proceeding from the first day of the month in which the license is obtained.
- Renewal of a license requires an inspection of the coop or coop with run by the Village Zoning Officer.
- Village may deny a license to any person who:
 - Owes money to the Village
 - Has had two (2) or more zoning violations within the last two (2) years
 - Property has not been properly maintained according to Village ordinances

- If licensee is convicted of cruelty to animals, the license will be immediately and permanently revoked
- Licenses for keeping or harboring hen chickens are non-transferrable and non-assignable

Enforcement

- A person found to be keeping or harboring hen chickens without a license will have seven (7) days from notification to obtain such license
- A licensee must allow inspection of the coop or coop with run by the Village Zoning Officer following receipt of a complaint
- Licensee found to be in any violation has seven (7) days from notification to achieve and prove compliance.
- Fines for keeping or harboring hen chickens without a license are as follows
 - Fifty (50) dollars per day, with a maximum not to exceed seven hundred and fifty (750) dollars.
- Failure to forfeit a license to a City official upon request will result in a fine of fifty (50) dollars per day, maximum not to exceed seven hundred fifty (750) dollars.

Property Information:

Owner Name(s): _____

Phone #: () _____ - _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Lot Size: _____

Signature(s): _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

1. Number of female chickens requested (1-20) _____

2. Provide description of the intended chick coop (i.e. dimensions, materials, location, etc.)

Please attach pictures or a brief drawing of coop or coop with run

