

ZONING PERMITS FOR THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS

The following standards regulate the keeping of chickens in certain downtown residential zoning districts.

A Zoning Permit Application and a site plan showing that you comply with the required side and rear yard setbacks for your zoning district is required. If you need assistance with this, please call (603) 448-1524. The fee for this Zoning Permit is \$31.00.

SECTION 611 KEEPING OF CHICKENS

The intent and purpose of this section is to allow the keeping of a limited number of chickens, primarily for the purpose of providing fresh eggs to the occupants of the **dwelling**.

The keeping of chickens shall be permitted for all **one-** and/or **two-family dwellings**, provided the following standards are met (these standards do not apply to chickens kept in the rural lands zoning districts where **agriculture** is a permitted use):

- A. It shall be unlawful to keep more than the following number of chickens on any **lot**:
- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Up to 2 acres | up to a total of 4 hens |
| 2 to 5 acres | up to a total of 10 hens |
| More than 5 acres | up to 2 hens per acre |
- B. No chickens shall be allowed on a **lot** with a **multi-family dwelling**.
- C. No roosters shall be allowed in the R-1 or R-2 Districts. In the R-3 District, roosters may be kept on **lots** larger than 5 acres at a ratio of 1 rooster per 10 **hens**.
- D. There shall be no outside slaughtering of chickens.
- E. A **coop** shall be provided within a **secure enclosure**. All chickens shall be kept outdoors within the **secure enclosure** at all times. The **secure enclosure** and **coop** shall be maintained in a humane and sanitary manner.
- F. The **secure enclosure** and the **coop** shall comply with the minimum required **yards** for the respective zoning district, and shall not be located within the **front yard**. For the keeping of roosters (per Section 611.C), the **secure enclosure** and **coop** must maintain a minimum **setback** of 150 feet from all lot lines.
- G. A zoning permit must be obtained prior to the construction of the **secure enclosure, coop**, and the keeping of chickens.