



## APPLICATION AND PERMIT FOR THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS

This application shall be submitted with the applicable fee according to the adopted City of Pine City (City) Fee Schedule. Letters of support shall be included with the application from adjacent property owners and landlords, when applicable. After review and acceptance of the application and fee, a permit shall be issued. Any violations of this ordinance may subject this permit to revocation. The owner may also be prosecuted for violation of this article, and his or her permit may be revoked.

The keeping of chickens is allowed with no limitations in the A-O District. The keeping of chickens is otherwise prohibited in the following districts: CBD, GB, HB, MFR-1, MFR-2, MHP, MXU, PUD, TI-1, TI-2 and Cluster-Residential. The keeping of chickens in the R-1 and R-2 districts (per each single dwelling unit) is allowed with the indicated limitations:

**Property owner / Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **District:** \_\_\_\_\_

Full address where the chickens will be housed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Own/Rent: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(If rental – written landlord consent is required)*

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of chickens requested: \_\_\_\_\_ (Limit five (5) hens – Roosters are prohibited)

Neighbor's letters of support required: \_\_\_\_\_ Neighbor's letters of support provided: \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance compliant site plan provided: \_\_\_\_\_

Acceptance: By signing this application, the applicant agrees to comply with all terms and conditions as set forth by City Code and to pay all expenses incurred by the City should compliance with the permit come into question. Your signature constitutes permission for a representative of the City to enter your property, during business hours, to evaluate this request or to determine compliance with this permit. Inspections must be scheduled with the Community Development Department.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**City of Pine City**  
1015 Hillside Ave SW, Suite 2, Pine City, Minnesota 55063 | Phone: 320.629.2575  
E-mail: [info@pinecitymn.gov](mailto:info@pinecitymn.gov) Web site: [pinecity.govoffice.com](http://pinecity.govoffice.com)

*Pine City is an equal opportunity employer*

Applicant Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

## 550.06 CHICKENS

**550.06.01. Definitions.** The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Brooding* means the period of chicken growth when supplemental heat must be provided, due to the bird's inability to generate enough body heat.

*Chicken* means a domesticated bird that serves as a source of eggs or meat.

*Coop* means the structure for the keeping or housing of chickens permitted by the article.

*Exercise yard* means a larger fenced area that provides space for exercise and foraging for the birds when supervised.

*Hen* means a female chicken.

*Officer* means any person designated by the City as an enforcement officer.

*Rooster* means a male chicken.

*Run* means a fully-enclosed and covered area attached to a coop where the chickens can roam unsupervised.

**550.06.02. Limitations.** The keeping of chickens is allowed with no limitations in the A-O District. The keeping of chickens is otherwise prohibited in the following districts: CBD, GB, HB, MFR-1, MFR-2, MHP, MXU, PUD, TI-1, TI-2 and Cluster-Residential. The keeping of chickens in the R-1 and R-2 districts (per each single dwelling unit) is allowed with the following limitations:

- (1) No more than five (5) hens shall be housed or kept on any one (1) residential lot.
- (2) Roosters are prohibited.
- (3) Slaughtering of chickens on the property is prohibited.
- (4) A separate coop is required to house the chickens. Coops must be constructed and maintained to meet the following minimum standards:
  - a. Located in the rear or side yard.
  - b. Setback at least seven (7) feet from the rear or side property lines.
  - c. Interior floor space – two (2) square feet per bird.
  - d. Interior height – six (6) feet to allow access for cleaning and maintenance.
    - e. Doors – one (1) door to allow humans to access the coop and one (1) for birds (if above ground level, must also provide a stable ramp).
    - f. The roofed structure shall be fully enclosed, wind proof, have one (1) square foot of window to fifteen (15) square feet of floor space and have a heat source to maintain an adequate temperature during extreme cold conditions.
    - g. Nest boxes – one (1) box per every three (3) hens.
    - h. For rental properties, written landlord consent submitted to the City.
    - i. Roosts – one and one-half (1 ½) inch diameter or greater, located eighteen (18) inches from the wall and two (2) to three (3) inches above the floor.

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- j. Rodent proof – coop construction and materials must be adequate to prevent access by rodents and raccoons.
- (5) A run or exercise yard is required.
  - a. Runs must be constructed and maintained to meet the following minimum standards:
    - 1. Location: rear or side yard.
    - 2. Size: Eight (8) square feet per bird, if access to a fenced exercise yard is available; sixteen (16) square feet per bird, if access to an exercise yard is not available. If the coop is elevated two (2) feet so the hens can access the space beneath, that area may count as a portion of the minimum run footprint.
    - 3. Height: Six (6) feet in height to allow access for cleaning and maintenance.
    - 4. Gate: One gate to allow human access to the run.
    - 5. Cover: Adequate to keep hens in and predators out.
    - 6. Substrate: Composed of material that can be easily raked or regularly replaced to reduce odor and flies.
  - b. Exercise yards must be fenced and are required if the run does not provide at least sixteen (16) square feet per bird. They shall be setback 10 feet from rear and side property lines.
- (6) Chickens must not be housed in a residential house or an attached or detached garage, except for brooding purposes only.
- (7) All premises on which hens are kept or maintained shall be kept clean from filth, garbage, and any substances which attract rodents. The coop and its surroundings must be cleaned frequently enough to control odor. Manure shall not be allowed to accumulate in a way that causes an unsanitary condition or causes odors detectible from another property. Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the City removing chickens from the premises.
- (8) All grain and food stored for the use of the hens on a premise with a chicken permit shall be kept in a rodent proof container.
- (9) Hens shall not be kept in such a manner as to constitute a nuisance to the occupants of adjacent property.

### **550.06.03. Fees and Penalties.**

Application shall be made to the City along with a fee according to the adopted Pine City Fee Schedule. Letters of support shall be included with the application from adjacent property owners. Upon receipt of the application and fee, a permit shall be issued. Violations of this ordinance make the permit subject to revocation. Additionally, any owner reclaiming a chicken under this article, which has been impounded for any reason, shall pay the costs of impounding and boarding the bird at the time of its release. The owner may also be proceeded against for violation of this article, and his or her permit may be revoked.

All ordinances and fees established with this license are located on the City of Pine City website: [www.pinecity.govoffice.com](http://www.pinecity.govoffice.com) or can be found at City Hall: 1015 Hillside Ave SW, Suite 2, Pine City, MN 55063