

Backyard Chickens



On March 3, 2022, the Village Board approved an ordinance that allows residents to keep chickens (hens) in the rear yards of their single-family home, with a permit issued by the Village. The ordinance was updated on December 15, 2022.

Overview

- A permit must be obtained before keeping chickens (hens) and a coop.
- Only residents of single-family homes (within the R0, R1, and R2 Zoning Districts) are eligible for backyard chickens (hens) permits. Check your property's zoning here: [ZONING MAP](#).
- Up to 6 hens and no less than 2 are allowed. No roosters are allowed.
- Chicken coops are allowed as a type of accessory structure and must be at least 10 feet from all property lines.
- The coop must have a minimum of 4 square feet per hen and a maximum of 150 square feet will be permitted for both the covered enclosure/structure and outdoor area.
- Residents who do not comply with Municipal Codes Section 155.227, 155.212, and 90.04 will be subject to enforcement action.

- For more information, please review the [Keeping Backyard Chickens Brochure \(PDF\)](#).

Applications

Residents must obtain a permit to raise hens. An application can be found [HERE](#) and requires the following:

- A plat of survey showing the chicken coop location and setbacks from the property lines
- Chicken coop plans
- Electric plans (if applicable)

The permit has a \$50 fee.

Applicants must also register their property with the [Illinois Department of Agriculture](#) in order to obtain a coop license. Registration with the Illinois Department of Agriculture is free.

Frequently Asked Questions

What should I do if I am interested in raising hens?

Contact local hen owners or seek additional information online, particularly through local groups such as the [Chicagoland Chicken Enthusiasts](#). Raising hens requires long-term commitment and would be suggested that if you are unfamiliar with raising chickens you attend a local workshop on raising chickens to ensure adequate preparation.

Do I need a permit?

Yes! Apply online at www.villageoflombard.org/onlinepermits. Select Residential Building Permit, next select Z – Chickens and submit the required materials below. The permit fee is \$50.

- Plat of survey noting coop location
- Coop plans
- Electric plans, if applicable

If I have a noise or odor complaint regarding chickens, who do I call?

Call the Village's Code Enforcement Division at 630-620-5757

If I see a chicken crossing the road, who do I call?

Chickens are not allowed to be outside of the rear yard. Please call Code Enforcement at 630-620-5757.

What should I do if my neighbor has chickens, but I am unsure if they have a permit?

Call the Community Development and Building Department at 630-620-5749

Other questions?

Please contact the Community Development and Building Department at 630-620-5749 or communitydevelopment@villageoflombard.org.