

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 10-112  
OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IV OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE AND TO REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners in regular meeting assembled and pursuant to lawful authority thereof:

**Subsection 10-112 is amended as Keeping of Fowl. (also known as “The Chicken Ordinance), as follows:**

(1) Residential fowl is subject to the following regulations:

- a. Permitted fowl: chickens, turkeys, guineas, geese, ducks, pigeons, or similar fowl
  1. Permitted fowl per zoning district:
    - a. All permitted fowl: AR-1
    - b. All non-commercial fowl: AR-2
  2. Conditional fowl per zoning district (MUST OBTAIN PERMIT FROM DEVELOPMENT SERVICES):
    - a. Chickens only (NO ROOSTERS, only hens): R-1
  3. Prohibited animals per zoning district:
    - a. Commercial fowl: AR-2
    - b. Turkeys, guineas, geese, ducks, swans, quails, partridges, pigeons, peafowls, and peacocks: R-1, and all other zoning districts.
  4. Minimum lot size:
    - a. AR-1: five (5) acres
    - b. AR-2: one (1) acre
    - c. R-1: half (.5) acre
- b. Location of chicken coop from an occupied residential dwelling: 150 feet
- c. Permitted number of approved poultry animals, collectively:
  1. Properties zoned AR-1: Maximum number may be fifteen (15) per acre.
  2. Properties zoned AR-2: Maximum number may be ten (10) per acre.
  3. Properties zoned R-1: Maximum number may be four (4) total.

d. Obtaining Backyard Hen Permit Process:

a. Items Needed:

1. Application Submitted to the Development Services Department
2. Plot plan showing chicken coop location and distance to neighboring residential dwellings.

**3. \$20 Animal Permit Fee**

b. Once application has been submitted it will be reviewed by the Zoning Department to verify minimum distance requirements.

c. The Permit will be issued to the property owner. The permit must be readily available in case any code enforcement complaint comes in.

d. After being approved by zoning, code enforcement will be notified the property owner has received the Backyard Hens Permit.

(2) Such fowl shall be kept at the following minimum distances from any occupied building except the dwelling unit of the owner:

<b>Animal</b>	<b>Distance (Feet)</b>
Chickens (4 or less in R-1)	150
Chickens, turkeys, guineas, geese, ducks, pigeons, or similar fowl (2 or more in AR-1 or AR-2)	200

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,  
EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

FIRST READING: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

SECOND READING: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEPHANIE JOHNSON  
EFFINGHAM COUNTY CLERK