

Conditions and Requirements

A minimum residential lot area of **500 m²** is required to be eligible for a backyard hens' licence. Licences will be issued on a "first come, first served" basis to a maximum of 30 licences.

Backyard hen licences will be valid for one (1) calendar year, commencing on January 1st of each year, and expiring on December 31st of each year. Every licence holder shall renew their licence prior to January 1st of every year to maintain their Licence status. Applications shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed in the Township's User Fee By-Law (as amended).

Every holder of a backyard hens' licence must:

- Reside on the property where the hens are housed and kept;
- Be compliant with the Property Standards By-law;
- Ensure the coop and outdoor run are placed on the property in such a manner as to limit visual impact (unless exemption section 4.1 applies);
- Ensure the coop structure and/or dedicated outdoor run areas are not located within 30 meters of a watercourse, within a flood plain, or in an easement area;
- Ensure the coop, hen run, and any manure and feed storage are not located in any minimum side yard or any front yard;
- Provide a site location plan of the coop and hen run. Indicate the distances to the property lines and all existing buildings, plus the location of the septic bed and the well (if applicable) (Minimum 1.5 m from the septic tank and a minimum of 5.0 m from the septic bed);
- Ensure the coop structure and/or dedicated outdoor run areas are not located within 15 meters of the property line of a school, public park, or public educational facility;
- Keep hens in the approved hen coop and/or adjacent enclosed outdoor run at all times (unless exemption section 4.1 or 7.2 applies);
- Keep hens in their coop from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. (unless exemption section 4.1 or 7.2 applies);
- Provide hens with clean feed and clean water at all times;
- Ensure storage of feed and manure is secure and in enclosed containers so as not to attract vermin or produce odour;
- Ensure manure storage on the residential lands does not exceed 1 cubic meter at any time;
- Properly dispose of deceased hens in a prompt and sanitary manner;
- Ensure the hens do not trespass onto adjacent lands, including adjacent private property or public roads and parks;
- Ensure the coop and hens do not create excessive noise, including persistent clucking;
- Limit the coop to a maximum height of 2 m (measured from the top of the ridge of a sloped roof/highest point of the overall structure) (unless exemption section 4.1 applies);
- Ensure the hen enclosure must not be attached to any residential dwelling, detached dwelling, or main building on the property;
- Ensure the coop area is a minimum of 0.37 m² (4 square feet) per hen with direct access to the hen run;
- All hen runs must provide shade and be roofed;
- The hen run is required to be a minimum of 0.93 m² (10 square feet) per hen;
- A minimum of 1 nest box per 4 hens is required. Nest boxes are recommended to be approximately 0.3 m X 0.3 m (12" X 12");
- A dedicated perch space of 8 to 12 inches per hen is required (must be 2.5 – 3.5 inches wide and have smooth, rounded edges).
- Not slaughter hens, or sell eggs or other products derived from hens on a residential property.

Applications can be sent to:

925 County Road 17, L'Orignal ON, K0B 1K0 (Attention By-Law Officer) or info@champlain.ca