



# Backyard Chickens License Application

Resources to assist in filling out this application, including zoning district and lot size information, can be found on the City’s website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/backyardchickens](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/backyardchickens).

## 1. Applicant Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Zoning district (find your district at [www.hopkinsmn.com/backyardchickens](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/backyardchickens)) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you the property owner?    Yes    No

If no, written permission is required from the property owner agreeing to allow chickens at the property. Is this included?    Yes    No

Will there be children under 5 living at or visiting the property?    Yes    No

If yes, please provide details on how you plan to keep children under 5 from the chickens (as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and the Minnesota Department of Health):

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

## 2. Number of Chickens

Maximum number of chickens to be kept at property \_\_\_\_\_ (should not exceed 4)

**Maximum number of chickens allowed in residential districts:**

District	Number of chickens allowed
All residential and institutional districts	4

Only hens may be kept, harbored, maintained, cared for, or controlled in the City. The keeping, harboring, maintaining, caring for, or controlling of roosters or any other poultry is prohibited under all circumstances (City Code Chapter 6-30).

## 3. Site Plan Requirements

A site plan is required for both a chicken coop and a chicken run. The plan must include the coop/run location related to property lot lines and existing structures.

Chicken coops must be located in the rear yard of the premises and must be setback at least 5 feet from any on-site or adjacent residential structure or business, and must conform with the property line detailed in the table on the following page.

Chicken runs may be mobile, must meet setback requirements at all times and must be returned to proper location while unattended or after sunset.



**Chicken coop/run minimum setback requirements**

District	Setback from all property lines
All residential and institutional districts	10 feet

**Please attach a site plan that includes the following pieces of information:**

- Size of chicken coop and run (*Maximum 6 square feet per chicken/7 feet total height -- see table below for details*)

Maximum Number of Chickens Allowed	Maximum Chicken Coop Size	Maximum Chicken Run Size
Four (4) Chickens	Twenty-Four (24) square feet	Eighty (80) square feet

- Location(s) of proposed chicken coop and run in relation to property lot lines and residential structures (house, shed garage), if applicable
- Chicken run size and material (*Maximum size 20 square feet per chicken and fencing must not exceed 6 feet in total height*)
- Screen view plan:
  - » Landscape buffer (*Landscaping may consist of shrubs or trees, but shall provide a minimum 50 percent opacity screen when planted*)
  - » Fenced screening, minimum of 4 feet (*A fence requires a separate permit consistent with the standards in City Code Section 102-13*)
- \* Fence permit included?    Yes    No    Existing Fence
- Plans to keep chickens warm in winter (*Heat lamps and other direct sources of heat are not permitted by fire code; chickens may not be kept inside the house or garage*)
- Plans for how the chicken coop will be fully enclosed, windproof and well-ventilated (*To shield the coop from view, and prevent escape by chickens or entrance by migratory birds, rodents and predators*)
- Plans for how the chicken run will be enclosed (*With fencing, weather resistant/green treated wood and/or sealed with a weather resistant product and/or woven wire materials that may allow chickens to contact the ground; must have a protective overhead netting to keep chickens separated from other animals*)

**4. Maintenance Plan**

Please attach a written plan for keeping the premises clean and free of waste material, objectionable odors and predators. *Note: Removal and proper disposal of feces/chicken waste is required a minimum of once per week; they shall not be composted.*

**5. Signature**

By signing below, I agree to provide City of Hopkins staff with access to the premises at any time requested to verify compliance with the City’s chicken regulations or in response to any complaint of a violation (*City Code Chapter 6*).

I understand that if approved, the license is valid until I no longer own the property. A new license will be required to be reviewed if the new property owner wishes to have chickens.

**X Applicant Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_





**For Office Use Only**

Date application received: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of staff who received application:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Application fee received

- Check
- Cash
- Credit card

Educational materials and code requirements given/talked about by:

Staff initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant initials: \_\_\_\_\_

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



Date received by City Planner: \_\_\_\_\_

Date reviewed by City Planner: \_\_\_\_\_

Site plan:

- Approved
- Denied

Denial reason:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of property site inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

- Passed
- Failed

Comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



License approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

License valid from: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

*(Renewal application due 30 days prior to expiration date)*

