



Village of Channahon Backyard Chicken Pilot Program

On November 6, 2017, the Village of Channahon Village Board passed Ordinance 1906, "An Ordinance Amending the Village of Channahon Code of Ordinances with Regard to "Backyard Chickens"". This ordinance permits the keeping of chickens on certain residentially zoned properties (R-1 and R-2 zoning districts) and includes provisions for the establishment of a Backyard Chicken Pilot Program.

Initially, the Village of Channahon will establish a pilot program for a period of 18 months, with an application process to begin on December 1, 2017. The program will consist of the allocation of up to 8 Hen House Licenses as provided by the Village based on completion and approval of proper application. In the event applications for licensing exceed eight (8) in number during the application period (December 1, 2017 through January 31, 2018), a lottery will be used to determine the order such applications will be considered by the Village. Applications received after the issuance of eight (8) licenses and/or during the pilot program period will be added to a wait list based on the date and time the application is received.

Once the pilot program period is complete and no later than October 1, 2019, the office of the Village Administrator will deliver a report to the Village Board regarding the Village's experience with the keeping of chickens and recommend whether an ordinance providing for keeping of chickens in certain residentially zoned areas should be recommended for adoption by the board.

Licensing Permit Application Process

Applications received by the Village must include the following:

1. A completed Village of Channahon Hen House application.
2. A current plat of survey accurately depicting the proposed location of the coop and pen. The survey must also the location, size and description of required perimeter fencing.
3. A license fee of \$150.00

Upon approval of the application by the Village, a building permit for the coop and pen must be secured. The fee for the building permits is \$70.00. A separate fence permit is required for any perimeter fencing if fencing does not exist at time of receipt of Hen House license.

A license for the keeping of chickens and a building permit for a structure for the keeping of chickens shall:

- (1) Not be granted unless the applicant can show proof that a proposed structure complies with all provisions of the Village code and;
- (2) Not be transferrable or run with the land and shall terminate and become invalid upon the licensee no longer occupying the property for which the license and permit were issued.

The specific requirements related to the keeping of chickens to as provided in Ordinance 1906 are provided below.

Specific Requirements that must be adhered to per Ordinance 1906:

1. Roosters are prohibited.
2. Not more than four (4) Hens are permitted on the property at any time.
3. Minimum lot size required for keeping of chickens in an R-1 or R-2 zoning district – 12,500 square feet.
3. The keeping of Hens is an accessory use.
4. Prior to keeping a Hen on the property, a Coop and a Pen must be constructed in conformance with Village Code.
5. The Hens must at all times remain in the Coop or Pen.
6. The Coop may not exceed fifty (50) square feet and must have a minimum of ten (10) square feet for each Hen.
7. The Coop must be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from any lot line and must be set back at least thirty (30) feet from any existing residence on an adjacent or nearby lot.
8. Coops are “accessory structures” under this Zoning Code.
9. Coops may not be constructed on or over municipal easements, public utility easements or drainage easements.
10. A building permit must be obtained for all Coops and Pens.
11. Not more than one (1) Coop is permitted on any lot.
12. A Pen is required for each Coop. The Pen must adjoin the Coop.
13. The Pen may not cover more than twenty five (25%) percent of the rear yard.
14. The Pen must have a permanent, secure cover capable of deterring predators.
15. Pens must be setback a minimum of five (5) feet from all property lines.
16. Pens and Coops must not exceed six (6') feet in height.
17. The Pen and Coop must be completely surrounded by a six (6') foot solid wood or PVC fence.
18. Feed must be stored in a rodent proof container.

19. All Pens and Coops shall be kept in a clean, sanitary condition free from refuse and waste.
20. Chickens are only permitted within the Pen and the Coop.
21. No odors emanating from the Pen or Coop may be detectable from an adjoining property.
22. No Hen slaughtering is permitted.
23. Hens may not be kept in the R-1 or R-2 District without first having obtained a Hen House License from the Village. Applications for a Hen House License shall be on a form provided by the Village Administrator. Such License shall be valid for one year. Licensing requirements shall be established by the President and Board of Trustees.
24. After issuance of Hen House License the Applicant is eligible to apply for a building permit for the Coop and Pen. .
25. Keeping of Hens or Roosters other than as permitted by this Section (I) is prohibited except in A-1 and A-2 Districts as provided in this Code.
26. The following are the construction standards for the Coop:
 - (a) Foundations: Any one of the following foundations is acceptable:
 1. Coops shall be constructed in a workmanlike manner, to be moisture resistant and either raised off the ground or placed on a hard surface such as concrete, patio block or gravel.
 2. Wood posts or precast concrete posts are acceptable foundations if they are placed at least 24 inches into the ground and firmly tamped with dirt or gravel. Wooden or pre-cast concrete posts may also be secured into the ground using anchor posts that are otherwise typically used for fencing or decks. Concrete must be used to secure the posts. All wood in contact with the ground must be pressure treated in accordance with AWPA or be decay-resistant.
 - (b) Wall & Roof Construction: Coop walls and roofs must be designed to withstand all natural forces such as wind, rain and snow.
 1. Wall framing must consist of 2" x 3" studs at 16" on center. Floor and roof framing must consist of 2" x 3' joists and rafter at 24" on center.
 2. Wall sheathing must be 3/8" thick, roof sheathing 3/8", floor sheathing 5/8".
 3. Pre-fabricated Coops shall be allowed when in conformance with the building code requirements for accessory structures.
27. The keeping of chickens is only allowed as an accessory use to a residential use on a lot or parcel.

28. Any person found to have violated this Section (H) shall be fined not more than \$100.00 nor less than \$75.00 for each offense. Each day upon which an offense occurs is deemed a separate offense. Prosecutions for violators may be under the Village Administrative Compliance Ticket (Act) powers or otherwise.



VILLAGE OF CHANNAHON

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Hen House Permit Application

Date: _____

Hen House Permit Number: _____

PRINT CLEARLY

Site Address:	Parcel PIN #:
Name of Applicant:	Zoning and Current Use of Property:
Phone:	Email Address:

Number of Hens to be kept: _____ (Maximum of four (4) hens. No roosters are allowed).

Initial

- _____ 1. I am aware that I must receive approval of the Village prior to obtaining hens and housing on the previously provided site address.
- _____ 2. I will follow all Village ordinances and state laws relating to the care and keeping of animals.
- _____ 3. I hereby grant the right to Village staff to enter onto my property to inspect the required coop and pen and/or to properly investigate any complaint received by the Village regarding the keeping of chickens.
- _____ 4. I am aware that I am responsible for keeping hens within the confines of the required area on my property at all times.
- _____ 5. I acknowledge that I live in a single-family detached dwelling as per zoning code.
- _____ 6. I understand that this permit is a limited license for the purpose of keeping chickens and no vested zoning rights arise from the permit being issued. I also understand that the permit is non-transferrable should my property be sold or occupied by a person different than that on this application. The license is valid for period of one year from the date of issuance.

_____ 7. I understand that any private restrictions on the use of the property shall remain enforceable and shall supersede any provisions of this license. I affirm that there are no private restrictions including, but not limited to, deed restrictions, neighborhood associations or bylaws, covenants and restrictions and rental agreements. A license issued to a person whose property is subject to private restrictions that prohibit keeping of hens is void.

As chicken coops (hen houses) are defined as “accessory structures” under Ordinance 1906, they must also adhere to the following requirements regarding accessory structures:

- A. When a side or rear yard are required, no coop may be located closer than ten (10) feet to the lot line or any other structure on the property.
- B. No accessory structure shall be constructed on any lot prior to the start of construction of the principal building to which it is accessory.
- C. Accessory structures on a property with a septic system will need health department approval prior to the issuance of a building permit. Coops must be located a minimum of ten (10) feet from the septic tank, septic lines and absorption field.

Please attach a current plat of survey showing the proposed location of the coop and pen. Please also describe the proposed hen coop and pen, including materials and size. Please include how improvements will be fenced per requirements.

<p>Under Penalty of Intentional Misrepresentation or Perjury, I declare that I have examined and/or made this application and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree to construct said improvements in compliance with the provisions of all applicable ordinances. I realize that the information that I have affirmed for a basis for the issuance of the license herein applied for. Approval and construction of plans must be provided through the issuance of a separate building permit(s).</p>		
<p>_____ Applicant Signature:</p> <p>_____ Property Owner</p> <p>_____ Received by Staff</p> <p>_____ Approved by Staff</p>	<p>_____ Printed Name:</p> <p>_____ Title</p> <p>_____ Title</p>	<p>_____ Date:</p> <p>_____ Date:</p> <p>_____ Date</p>