

REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF SPARTANBURG KEEPING OF DOMESTICATED FEMALE CHICKEN ORDINANCE

General Rules for Keeping Chickens

Domesticated female chickens must be confined in a coop which is fully enclosed with a solid floor and made of suitable, washable material. The coop shall be cleaned regularly with all droppings and excretions placed in a fly-proof container unless otherwise disposed of in accordance with any federal, state or local health regulations.

The chicken coop must be located at least 50 feet from the nearest residence other than that of the owner. No coop shall be placed in a front or side yard.

Failure to appropriately confine the domesticated female chickens, maintain the coop or manage the droppings and excretions shall be unlawful.

It shall be unlawful to slaughter any domesticated female chickens on the premises.

It shall be unlawful to raise domesticated female chickens for commercial purposes within the corporate limits of the City.

It shall be unlawful to keep domesticated female chickens on premises within the City without first obtaining an approval of the location of the chicken coop and the issuance of an annual permit. Any annual permit would be subject to ordinance revisions adopted by Council. Should Council amend the Ordinance to prevent domesticated female chickens or any other new conditions, such amendment would apply to current permits within thirty (30) days from the date of adoption of Council's revisions.

Annual Permit

The annual permit to keep domesticated female chickens is personal to the permittee and may not be assigned. No permit shall be issued without the written consent of abutting property owners. In addition, the permit authorizes the keeping of domesticated female chickens only upon the property described in the permit.

The permittee must occupy the residence on the property where the domesticated female chickens are kept as the permittee's personal, primary residence.

An applicant for a permit must either own the property or have permission from the property owner to be eligible for a permit.

Only one permit is allowed per permittee.

In the event the permittee is absent from the property for longer than thirty (30) days, the permit automatically shall terminate and become void.

The issuance of a permit does not create a vested right to renewal of the permit beyond the stated term thereof.

A permit that is issued to a person whose property is subject to private restrictions that prohibit the keeping of domesticated female chickens is void. The interpretation and enforcement of the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.

Requirements for Fenced Chicken Coops

Domesticated female chickens must be kept in a fenced enclosure at all times. In addition to the fenced enclosure, domesticated female chickens shall be provided with a covered, predator-resistant chicken coop.

A minimum of two (2) square feet per domesticated female chicken shall be provided for the chicken coop.

Fenced enclosures and chicken coops must be properly ventilated, clean, dry, and odor-free, kept in a neat and sanitary condition at all times, in a manner that will not disturb the use or enjoyment of neighboring lots due to noise, odor or other adverse impact.

The chicken coop and fenced enclosure must provide adequate ventilation and adequate sun, shade and must be constricted in a manner to resist access by rodents, wild birds and predators including dogs and cats.

Chicken coops shall be enclosed on all sides and shall have a roof and doors. Opening windows and vents must be covered with predator- and bird-resistant wire of less than one (1) inch openings.

All stored food for the domesticated female chickens must be kept either indoors or in a weather-resistant container designed to prevent access by animals. Uneaten food shall be removed daily.

Applications for Permit

Every applicant for a permit to keep domesticated female chickens shall complete and file an application on a form prescribed by the City.

The City shall issue a permit if the applicant has demonstrated compliance with the criteria and standards of the Ordinance of the City of Spartanburg relating to the keeping of domesticated female chickens.

A permit to keep domesticated female chickens may be suspended or revoked by the City where there is a risk to public health or safety or for any violation of or failure to comply with any of the provisions of any other applicable ordinance or law. Any denial, revocation or suspension of a permit shall be in writing and shall include notification of the right to and procedure for appeal.