



1330 S. Big Bend Blvd.
Richmond Heights, MO 63117

Raising Chickens in Richmond Heights, MO

Richmond Heights permits the keeping of up to five (5) chickens at a single-family residence. Below are the steps to follow if you would like to raise chickens:

- a. Request application packet from the Building Department.
- b. Review application packet.
- c. Determine how setbacks from property lines affect placement of where coop/pen can be located and review other criteria. If your desired placement would encroach on required side or rear property line setbacks, you need to get written permission from neighbors showing that they agree to the placement. You will need to submit the neighbor(s) written permission(s) along with your application to the Building Department.
- d. Submit application along with the \$25.00 fee and drawing of rear yard showing proposed placement of coop/pen. Also include your neighbor(s) written permission(s) for placement, if applicable.
- e. Your proposed coop/pen placement will be reviewed and if in compliance, approved.
- f. Build coop and pen.
- g. Schedule inspection for placement review.
- h. Permit issued.

If you have any questions, please call the Building Department at 314-646-7658.

Application To Keep Chickens

Note: Only allowed for single-family dwellings

Date _____

Property Address: _____

Permit Owner/Applicant: _____ Phone Number _____

Permission is hereby granted _____ to keep chickens. Date _____ Insp. _____

I. Applicant acknowledges that they understand:

The keeping of up to five (5) chickens in total shall be permitted as provided in this section only in single family residences and only if a permit has been issued by the City Manager or his or her designee. A permit to keep not more than five (5) chickens shall be issued by the City Manager or his or her designee if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- a) The chickens must be adequately confined within a coop or pen surrounded by wire netting or other fence to prevent their escape there from and kept in good repair and free of peeling paint, untreated or rotted wood and rust;
- b) The pen shall be maintained in a ventilated, safe and sanitary condition, which has adequate space for humane treatment and free from predators;
- c) Any manure or other waste from the chickens shall be collected and properly removed from the premises or tilled into the soil on the premises promptly and regularly to prevent the spreading of offensive smells or diseases;
- d) Young roosters less than one (1) year old may also be kept as part of the total of five (5), but the keeping of young roosters that crow so as to heard from a distance of ten (10) feet is strictly prohibited;
- e) No slaughtering of any chickens shall be allowed except within a fully enclosed premise completely blocked from public view;
- f) No person shall keep chickens in any manner so as to create a nuisance as defined in our ordinances;
- g) Eggs may not be sold on the premises;
- h) Chicken coops or pens must be at least forty (40) feet from any part of a residential dwelling or place of business on adjoining properties;
- i) Chicken coops or pens must be set back at least twenty (20) feet from any boundary or property line, or at least 25% of width of the property.
- j) Chicken coops or pens may only be kept in a rear yard;
- k) Fighting or aggressive birds may be not kept;
- l) The keeping of chickens pursuant to a permit issued under this section shall also comply with all ordinances of the City;
- m) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to preclude the enforcement of any violation of any City ordinances committed in connection with the keeping of chickens, notwithstanding the issuance of such permit; and

- n) By applying for a permit under this section the property owner authorizes City officials at all reasonable times and in a reasonable manner to enter upon and inspect the property with respect to which such permit is applied for to determine whether the keeping of chickens violates this section or any other applicable ordinances.
- o) The annual fee for a permit shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to help defray costs of inspection and enforcement, payable on issuance of the permit and on January 1st of each year. After completion of three years with a permit and with no violations of this ordinance, no annual fee shall be required so long as there are no violations of this ordinance, and the permit shall remain in effect until revoked.

Permit Owner/Applicant Signature

II. Location:

- A. Chicken coops or pens must be at least forty (40) feet from any point of a residential dwelling or place of business on adjoining properties.

Chicken coops or pens must be set back at least twenty (20) feet from any boundary or property line, or at least 25% of the width of the property. Distance of proposed pen or coop to:

Side Property line

Rear Property line

Adjacent dwelling or business

Upon written application, variances from the requirements of this ordinance may be granted by the City Manager, or his or her designee, if there are practical difficulties in compliance and proof of notice of the variance application is sent to all adjoining property owners. **Requests for variances from the provisions of subparagraphs h) and i) above shall be accompanied by a written consent by all adjacent property owners directly affected by any encroachment.**

III. Permit Owner acknowledges the owner has been advised by the City that the ordinance allowing chickens may be amended or repealed at any time and that the owner acquires no vested rights to have or raise chickens by virtue of the issuance of the permit; and (2) that the keeping and handling of chickens may cause health hazards and that adequate health precautions are the responsibility of the owner.

Permit Owner/Applicant Signature

IV. *For Inspectors Use Only*

Date _____

Inspections every year for three years

- a. Coop or pen properly located in good repair, clean and sanitary. Year ____ ____ ____
- b. Number of chickens observed ____ Year ____ ____ ____
- c. Chickens are properly confined. Year ____ ____ ____
- d. \$25.00 Fee paid Year ____ ____ ____