

Urban Chicken (Hen) Permit Application

City of Cambridge Municipal Code, Chapter #
225 Water St., Cambridge, Iowa, 50046
Phone: 515-220-4541 Email: cityofcambridge@huxcomm.net

Urban Chicken Permit #: _____

Permit Applicant: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Number of chickens desired/on premises _____

Is this a Single-Family Dwelling? YES NO Are you the property owner? YES NO

1. Attached a drawing of proposed location, including all lot lines, distance from all lot lines, dimensions of proposed construction and any information required in determining location. Be specific and detailed.

2. If you are not the owner of the proposed tract of land, attach written authorization from the property owner to keep chickens or install a coop.

5. Submit this application along with \$25.00 annual fee.

Pursuant to Chapter 55A of the City of Cambridge Municipal Code, **Section 55A.02** Permit Required – This application and supporting documents shall be submitted by the Permittee and approved by the City to raise, harbor or keep chickens (hens) within the city limits of Cambridge. By signing this application, the applicant attests to having read and understood the requirements of this ordinance and affirms that all submitted information is true and correct. It is further understood that a maximum of six (6) hens are allowed and shall only be placed on the applicant occupied permitted address. Hen houses must be at least 10 feet from the property line and 25 feet from any neighboring structure or occupancy. If approved, this permit is good for one (1) year from the date of issuance for an annual fee of \$25.00 for the first year. This permit is intended for the applicant and is considered non-transferable. The applicant understands and agrees to not allow their hens to become a nuisance or burden on the community which violates this or other applicable city codes. Failure to comply with the provisions of this or related ordinances shall result in fees, fines, penalties and possible revocation in accordance to law. Checks or Money Orders shall be made payable to: City of Cambridge.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

APPLICATION RECEIVED (Date): _____ IS THIS A RENEWAL? YES NO

PROPERTY INSPECTED AND PASSED INSPECTION? YES NO FEE PAID? YES NO

APPROVING SIGNATURE: _____ Permit Expiration: _____

Chicken Requirements

1. No more than six hens are allowed.
2. Roosters are not prohibited.
3. Chickens must be housed in the coop from dusk till dawn.
4. Slaughtering of a chicken is prohibited.
5. Selling of eggs and chickens is prohibited.
6. Eggs shall be removed within two days of being laid.
7. All feed and other items associated with the keeping of chickens shall be protected in a manner to prevent rodents from gaining access to or coming into contact with them.
8. Adequate food, water, and shelter shall be provided at all times.

Permit Granted/Denied:

The designee, shall issue an urban chicken permit if:

1. The property has passed inspection.
2. The application fee has been paid.
3. There are no outstanding violations of local, state or federal law on the property.
4. The location, coop and pen meet all requirements of the policy.
5. The application is complete.
6. If it is a renewal, all outstanding reinspection fees have been paid.

Terms of permit

The permit shall contain, at a minimum, the following conditions

1. The permittee shall follow the City Code and state law regarding animal care.
2. The permittee grants the City the right to inspect the coop and pen one year after the permit is issued and at any other time to investigate a complaint.
3. Private restrictions on the use of the property shall remain enforceable and shall supersede the permit. The private restrictions include, but are not limited to, deed restrictions, condominium restrictions, neighborhood association bylaws, covenants and restrictions and rental agreements. A permit issued to a person whose property is subject to private restrictions that prohibit keeping of chickens is void.

Site Requirements

1. A tenant must obtain the landlord's written permission to install a coop.
2. Coops cannot be within 25 feet from any neighboring habitable structure.
3. Coops cannot be located within five feet of the habitable structure on the applicant property.
4. Coops cannot be located within 10 feet of the property line.

5. Coops and pens shall be located only in the backyard.

Coop Requirements

1. Coops may be mobile, known as “tractors.”
2. Coops shall be constructed, repaired, and maintained in a manner to prevent rodents from being harbored underneath or within the walls of the enclosures.
3. Coops shall be built of solid materials such as wood, metal or plastic.
4. Feces shall be removed and disposed of in a sealed, enclosed container at a minimum of once weekly to avoid odor.
5. Fecal matter may be used as a fertilizer if turned completely into the soil at least once weekly and there is no noxious odor.
6. Coops shall:
 - a. Be maintained to ensure proper sanitation for maintaining the health of the chickens and the keepers.
 - b. Be easy to clean and with good drainage.
 - c. Protect the flock from extreme temperatures and wind.
 - d. Keep out rodents, raptors and other predatory animals.
 - e. Be well ventilated.
 - f. Be free of drafts and maintains a uniform temperature.
 - g. Have nests that entice hens to lay indoors.
 - h. Include sanitary feed and water stations.
 - i. Be built in a well-drained area to prevent standing water.
 - o. Be large enough to house chickens adequately.

Pen Requirements

1. The pen may be the entire backyard.
2. The fence must be at least 4 feet in height and constructed of wood, chicken wire or heavy gauge mesh wire.
3. Feces shall be removed and disposed of in a sealed, enclosed container at a minimum of once weekly to avoid odor.
4. Fecal matter may be used as a fertilizer if turned completely into the soil at least once weekly and there is no noxious odor.

Permit Revocation

1. The Huxley Police, or designee, is authorized to revoke a permit whenever:
 - a. The permittee has failed to comply with this policy;

- b. The permittee has violated the City Code;
 - c. The permittee has misstated any material in the application;
 - d. This is a substantial and material variance between the information in the application and the actual facts or those facts which appear reasonably to have occurred; or
 - e. The permittee is operating in violation of the terms and conditions of the permit.
2. The permittee may appeal the revocation in the same manner as appealing the denial of a permit.

Fees

1. The fee for the initial permit is \$25.00
2. If the City issues the permittee a Notice of Violation and if the permittee has not cured the violation when the property is reinspected, the permittee shall be assessed a reinspection fee of \$35 which is due in 30 days. If the violation has been cured, no reinspection fee shall be assessed.