



City of Detroit Lakes

1025 Roosevelt Ave., P.O. Box 647 Detroit Lakes, MN 56502

Dear Applicant:

Re: Information sheet relative to applying for a permit to keep chickens

Residents are allowed to keep chickens on their property under the following conditions:

A. Permit Condition

1. They obtain an annual permit by completing an application and paying a \$60 annual fee. Permits expire on December 31st each year.
2. No more than four (4) chickens may be kept on any premises.
3. The chickens must be hens, no roosters are allowed.
4. Chickens must be confined on the premises at all times in a chicken coop or a chicken run.
5. Chickens may be kept in an “R-1”, R-2”, or “R-A” district.
6. The minimum lot size for keeping chickens is 7,500 square feet.

B. Coop and Run Requirements.

1. All chickens shall be kept and maintained within a detached, stationary structure used exclusively for the keeping of chickens. Temporary or movable devices and structures shall be prohibited. Chickens must be secured in a chicken coop from sunset to sunrise each day.
2. A coop and any attached run/enclosure shall be located in a portion of the rearyard that is not visible from any public right of way at the permit holder’s residence.
3. A coop and any attached run/enclosure shall be located at least 20 (twenty) feet from any residential structure and at least 10 (ten) feet from all lot lines.
4. Any coop and run shall be screened with a solid fence or landscaped buffer with a minimum height of four (4) feet.
5. Coops shall be constructed in a skillful manner, including being ventilated, insulated, roofed, constructed of moisture resistant materials, and in compliance with current City building and zoning ordinances.
6. All chicken coops must be a minimum of 4 square feet per chicken in size, must not exceed 10 square feet per chicken in size and must not exceed 6 feet in total height. Attached fenced-in chicken runs must not exceed 20 square feet per chicken and fencing must not exceed six feet in total height. Chicken runs may be enclosed with wood and/or woven wire materials, and may allow chickens to contact the ground.
7. Chicken coops must either be:
 - a) Elevated with a clear open space of at least 24 inches between the ground surface and framing/floor of the coop; or,

- b) The coop floor, foundation, and footings must be constructed using rodent resistant construction.
- 8. Permit information shall be attached to the coop, including the name of the permit holder, permit number, and an emergency contact telephone number.

C. Sanitation and Conditions for Keeping.

- 1. A person keeping or maintaining chickens on residential property:
 - 1) Shall keep or maintain not more than four (4) total chickens.
 - 2) Shall keep or maintain chickens within a coop or attached coop run/enclosure at all times.
 - 3) Shall not keep or maintain any roosters.
- 2. Chickens shall, at all times, be provided with access to feed and clean water, proper shelter and protection from the weather, veterinary care when needed, and humane care and treatment.
- 3. Deceased chickens shall be disposed of immediately in a safe manner, which may include trash disposal after placing the deceased bird in a sealed bag.
- 4. All waste including manure shall be disposed of, at least weekly, in a safe and adequate manner that does not create a public nuisance. Composting of manure shall be done in a dedicated, enclosed container at least twenty (20) feet from any residential structure and at least ten (10) feet from all lot lines.
- 5. Chicken manure shall not be placed in yard compost piles.
- 6. Chickens shall be secured within a coop during non-daylight hours.
- 7. Chickens shall not roam free outside of a coop or attached run/enclosure, or off of the permitted property.
- 8. Coops shall be entirely removed from the property within sixty (60) days of the nonrenewal of a permit.
- 9. Sale of eggs is prohibited.
- 10. Chicken feed shall be stored and kept in containers which make the feed unavailable to rodents, vermin, wild birds, and predators.
- 11. All coops, attached runs/enclosures and yards where chickens are kept or maintained shall be cleaned regularly to keep them reasonably free from substances, including but not limited to manure, uneaten feed, feathers, and other such waste that it does not cause the air or environment to become noxious or offensive or to be in such condition as to promote the breeding of flies, mosquitoes, or other insects, or to provide habitat, breeding or feeding place for rodents or other animals, or otherwise be a nuisance.
- 12. Chickens shall be kept and handled in a sanitary manner to prevent the spread of communicable diseases among birds or to humans.
- 13. The City reserves the right to eliminate all chickens within the City if a pandemic regarding fowl and poultry is declared.

14. Chickens that become ill must receive veterinary care on-site or at a veterinary office. Chickens ill with an infectious disease capable of being transmitted from bird to bird or from birds to humans, including but not limited to, salmonella, avian influenza, must be immediately euthanized by a veterinarian or immediately removed from the City and humanely killed outside of the City. Any person keeping chickens shall immediately report any unusual illness or death of chickens to the City.

D. Conditions and Inspection. No person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors chickens shall permit the premises where the chickens are kept to be or remain in an unhealthy, unsanitary or noxious condition or to permit the premises to be in such condition that noxious odors are carried to adjacent public or private property. Any chicken coop and chicken run authorized by permit under this Section may be inspected at any reasonable time by the City Animal Control Officer or other agent of the City. Slaughter and breeding of chickens on any premises within the City is prohibited.

E. Violations.

1. Revocation. A permit for the keeping of chickens may be revoked or suspended by the City Council for any violation of this ordinance following ten (10) days written notice to the last known address of the permit holder and a public hearing.
2. Nuisance. Violations of this ordinance may constitute a public nuisance, punishable as provided by City ordinance.
3. Other Penalties. Any person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains, or harbors chickens in the City limits of Detroit Lakes without obtaining or maintaining a current permit, after a permit has been suspended or revoked by Council action, or contrary to the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a violation of this section.

A violation of Chapter 503, the City's Animal Code, shall be a misdemeanor under state law. In addition the provisions of this section may be enforced by order of the City requiring removal of the chickens, chicken coop and chicken run by the violator, abatement by the City or by Civil Action and the City is authorized to pursue any remedy available at law or in equity, including but not limited to temporary restraining orders, injunctions both mandatory and prohibitory as well as damages. In addition, any violation of this section or failure to comply with its requirements shall be subject to enforcement by administrative penalty. Each day a violation exists shall be a separate violation. The fee for administrative penalties shall be set by Council resolution.

Regards,



Larry Remmen, AICP
Community Development Director

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO KEEP CHICKENS



ORIGINAL APPLICATION

RENEWAL APPLICATION

ANNUAL PERMIT FEE: \$60.00

Address where chickens will be located		Number of Chickens (Hens ONLY) (Maximum allowed is 4)	
Name of property owner (please print)		Phone	
Street	City	State	Zip
Email address			

APPLICANT INFORMATION (IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER)

Name of applicant (please print)		Phone	
Street	City	State	Zip

If this is a renewal, have there been any changes from the previous year? YES NO

APPLICANTS MUST:

1. Submit a plan/diagram according to Chapter 503. If no changes, this is not required for renewal.
2. Contact the Code Compliance Official for inspection at 218-846-7122.

APPLICANT'S STATEMENT

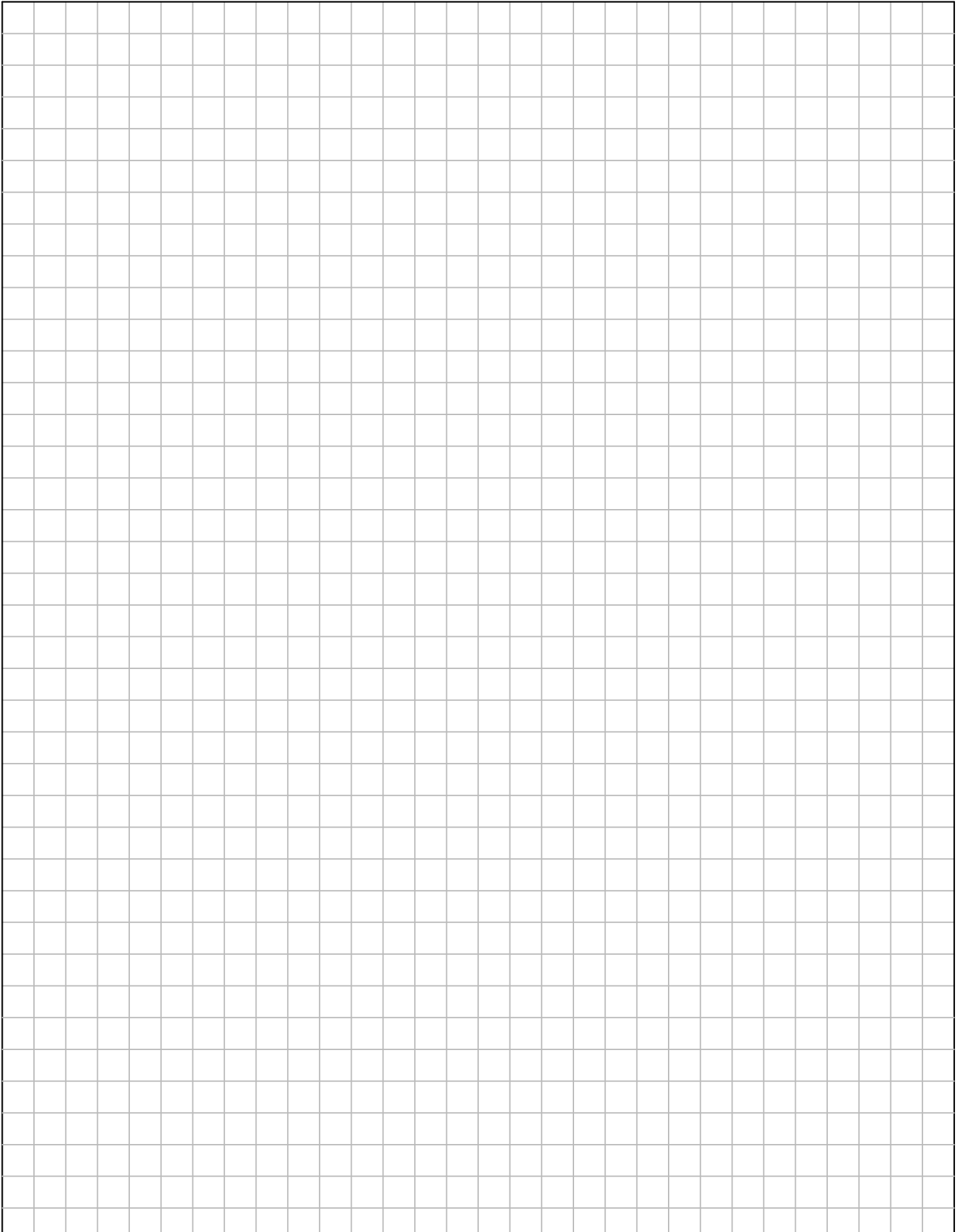
I hereby certify that this application is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that the chickens and chicken products are for personal use. I understand that no commercial sales from the residence or any residential area within the city is permitted. I agree, in the consideration of the issuing of this permit, to comply with the laws of the State of Minnesota, and to the provisions of the Ordinances of the City of Detroit Lakes.

_____ Date: _____
Signature of property owner

_____ Date: _____
Signature of applicant if different from property owner

<p>Permit period January 1 to December 31 Non-refundable/Non-transferable</p> <p>Return with payment to: City of Detroit Lakes PO Box 647 Detroit Lakes, MN 56502</p>	<p>OFFICE USE ONLY Fee: \$60.00</p>	
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Chicken Structure Diagram



Property Address _____

Corner Lot Yes No

Property & Chicken Structure Diagram

Please supply a scaled sketch of your property and chicken structure

The diagram sketch shall include:

- 📏 Location of house and surrounding buildings
- 📏 Your lot lines and lot dimensions
- 📏 Location, size and types of all structures for the keeping of chickens/ducks
- 📏 Setbacks of chicken structures
 - Chicken structures shall be setback twenty (20) feet from all habitable structures and five (5) feet from any accessory structure and ten (10) feet from all property lines.

