

**CITY OF ROCK HILL, MO.
320 W. THORNTON AVE
Rock Hill, MO. 63119
314-968-1410**

RESIDENTIAL CHICKEN PERMIT APPLICATION

A drawing of the rear yard, depicting location and size of coop and pen must be submitted with this application. The fee for inspection is \$30.00. There are three approvals that must be obtained: 1) approval for the plans submitted, 2) approval following inspection, and 3) approval for the permit.

Approval & Conditions for Revocation of the Permit

Upon approval, the permit is good for **three years** from date of issuance. Please note that a permit **may be revoked at any time** without a hearing if it is determined that an infectious agent of potential significant co-pathogenicity, such as the Avian Flu, is identified within the continental United States.

In addition, if the holder of the permit allows unsanitary conditions, or any violation of ordinance # 210.130 (Animal Regulations), the Building Inspector or his/her designee shall notify the permit holder and property owner via certified mail that the permit has been revoked. Additional clarifying detail of this stipulation in the ordinance is located under **Section D, Item 5**, as noted below.

Applicant:

Property Address: _____ Rock Hill, MO. _____
Zip Code

Applicant Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name of Property Owner _____ / _____
Phone

Property Owner Address _____
City State Zip

Number of Chickens: _____

Coop Size (sq. ft.): _____ Outdoor Pen Size (sq. ft.): _____

Fee Paid _____

Plans Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Physical Property
(Pen and Coop) Inspected by: _____ Date: _____

Permit Approved by: _____ Date: _____

The following criteria pertain to the keeping of chickens on a residential property in the City of Rock Hill, MO.

DETAILED CRITERIA

1. Chickens are limited to single-family residences and with valid occupancy permits. Chickens may be kept for purely domestic purposes only. No chickens or eggs may be sold to any person not a resident of the premises where kept.
2. No more than six (6) chickens are allowed. Roosters are not allowed. In the event that chickens are acquired at an age when gender cannot be determined, any male chickens (roosters) must be removed within ten (10) days of the date that gender can be determined.
3. Chickens currently kept shall not be “grandfathered” or permitted to remain after the effective date of this section unless brought into compliance.
4. No slaughtering of any chickens shall be permitted.
5. Fighting or aggressive birds shall not be kept.
6. Chickens shall not be kept in any building or structure used or intended to be used for human habitation.
7. Chickens shall be adequately confined within a coop and pen surrounded by wire netting or other fence and a roof to prevent their escape therefrom and kept in good repair and free of peeling paint, untreated or rotted wood and rust.
8. Chicken coops and pens shall only be kept in the “rear yard” as that term is defined in Chapter 405.
9. Chicken coops shall be constructed to include four (4) square feet of space inside the coop per chicken, up to a maximum of thirty-two (32) square feet in size. Chicken pens shall be constructed to include ten (10) square feet of outdoor space per chicken, up to a maximum of eighty (80) square feet in size. Chicken coops and pens shall maintain the required rear and

side yard setbacks for all accessory structures in accordance with Section 405.540 "Accessory Buildings in Rear Yards".

10. Chicken coops and pens shall be maintained in a ventilated, safe and sanitary condition which has adequate space for humane treatment and provides protection from predators and natural elements. They shall be free from all obnoxious smells or substances; otherwise they shall be deemed to be a public nuisance.

The owner and the tenant or custodian of the premises on or in which any chicken is kept must promptly comply with orders of the City and/or the St. Louis County Department of Health in respect to any unsanitary condition found to exist.

11. Any obnoxious odor discernible at the lot line or allergen arising from any condition existing within the coop or pen shall be evidence of a lack of sanitary maintenance of the premises, and shall constitute a public nuisance.
12. The presence of numerous flies or the presence of fly larvae in the vicinity of any such coop or pen shall be evidence of a lack of sanitary maintenance of the premises, and shall constitute a public nuisance.
13. 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.

Any unnecessary accumulation of debris, refuse, manure or other removable material upon any surface within or on any such coop or pen, or within the area around the coop or pen shall be evidence of a lack of sanitary maintenance of the premises, and shall constitute a public nuisance.

14. All premises used or intended to be used for the keeping of chickens permitted by the city shall be thoroughly cleaned and all debris, refuse, manure or other removable material shall be removed therefrom as often as may be necessary to effect satisfactory compliance with the provisions of this section.

All debris, refuse, manure or other removable materials shall be controlled such that debris, refuse, manure or other removable materials do not enter the stormwater system or any abutting property.

15. Areas containing any coop, pen and any appurtenances thereto must either be of level grade or graded in a direction away from the lot line in order to prevent run off onto adjacent lots or public property.
16. Deceased chickens must be disposed of either through burial or incineration in accordance with federal, state, and county regulations.

All coops and pens and all feed containers intended for the use of chickens permitted by the city shall be constructed, maintained and kept in such a manner as to be completely rodent proof. The floors of every such coop shall be smooth and tight, and maintained so as to prevent accumulation of filth or water or harboring of vermin thereunder.

17. The owner and occupant of premises where chickens are kept, maintained or allowed to remain, and any holder of a permit for chickens, shall be responsible for any violations of this section.
18. The keeping of chickens pursuant to a permit issued under this section shall comply with all ordinances of the city. 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. 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.

D. Chicken Permit Requirements, Revocation and Penalties.

1. Any person desiring to keep chickens shall file a permit application with the city. The permit application shall contain sufficient information for the Building Inspector or his/her designee to determine compliance with the Section. The application shall include but not be limited to the following information:
 - i. Name, address and phone number of applicant.
 - ii. Name, address and phone number of property owner if different from applicant.

- iii. Number of chickens to be kept.
 - iv. Site plan showing, to scale, the location of the facilities to be provided and the distances from each lot line.
2. The Building Inspector or his/her designee shall decide whether the application meets the terms and conditions of this section.
3. Each permit shall be for a term of three (3) years, unless sooner revoked by the Building Inspector or his/her designee. Each application and renewal shall require an inspection of the premises to confirm compliance and a permit shall not be issued or renewed if a premise is found not to comply. Each inspection shall require a thirty dollar (\$30) inspection fee to help defray the costs of inspection and enforcement.
4. A permit may be revoked at any time, without a hearing, if it is determined that an infectious agent of potential significant co-pathogenicity, such as avian flu, is identified within the continental United States. At such time, the owner shall take steps as health officials of the County, State or Federal government instruct with regard to the quarantine or destruction of any such chicken.
5. If the holder of a permit allows an unsanitary condition, or any violation of this ordinance to exist for more than (14) calendar days after notice from the city, then the Building Inspector or his/her designee shall notify the permit holder and property owner via certified mail that the permit has been revoked. The permit holder and property owner shall have seven (7) calendar days after the revocation notice is mailed by certified mail to remove the chickens, come into compliance with this section or appeal the revocation.
6. Permit revocations under this section may be appealed as follows:
 - i. Appeals shall be filed in writing within seven (7) calendar days after the revocation notice is mailed by certified mail.
 - ii. Appeals shall be determined following a hearing before the City Administrator or his/her designee.
 - iii. At least seven (7) calendar days' notice of the hearing shall be given to the permit holder and property owner by certified mail.
 - iv. The permit holder and property owner and any other interested party may appear at the hearing and testify and present evidence concerning the conditions giving rise to the revocation.

7. Any person who keeps chickens without a valid permit, except those who have filed an appeal to a revocation and are awaiting the outcome of said appeal, shall be referred to the Municipal Court and shall be subject to Section 210.150.