

resealable, airtight, predator-proof container.

5. Remove spillage and leftover food daily.

Fire Hazard

Chicken coop fires can and do happen and can cause significant damage to your property if proper precautions are not taken.

1. Heaters should generally not be used in a chicken coop or chicken run as they pose a fire danger. If a heater is desired, it is recommended that it be installed by a professional electrician.
2. It is recommended that the chicken coop and chicken run are not connected to the primary residence in case of fire.

Helpful Links

There are many online resources with information on raising backyard chickens that you are encouraged to research. Below are a few of the sources that can be found:

Colorado State University Extension. <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/sam/backyard-chickens.html>

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Small Scale Poultry Housing. <http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/2902/2902-1092/2902-1092.html>

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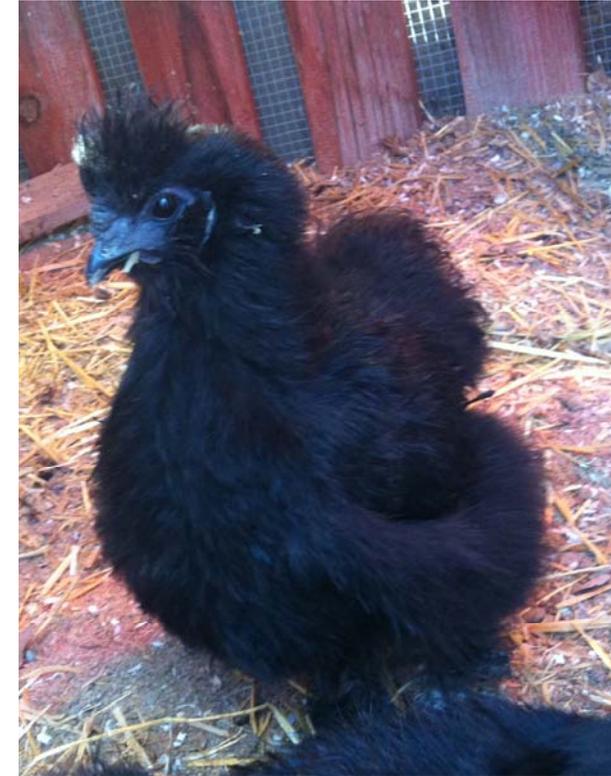
City of Fort Lupton
Planning & Building Department
130 S. McKinley Ave.
Fort Lupton, CO 80621

Phone: 303.857.6694

Visit us on the web: www.fortlupton.org

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BACKYARD CHICKEN INFORMATION

JANUARY 2014

*This institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*

Background

In November 2013, the voters of Fort Lupton voted to allow up to six (6) backyard chickens to be kept in the backyard of single-family residential properties within the City. Fort Lupton Municipal Code, Section 7-167 was approved by the City Council on January 6, 2014 in order to provide a framework and regulations for keeping backyard chickens.

This brochure is meant to assist you with complying with City regulations and keeping your backyard chickens safe from potential dangers.

Restrictions

- Prior to keeping backyard chickens on any property, a permit must be obtained from the City.
- Only six (6) backyard chickens are allowed.
- Roosters are prohibited.
- All other poultry and fowl are prohibited, including but not limited to peacocks, pigeons, turkeys, and ducks.
- Onsite slaughtering of backyard chickens is prohibited.
- At no time are backyard chickens permitted to move around freely on a property outside of a chicken coop or chicken run.
- Backyard chickens, chicken runs, or chicken coops are not allowed in the front yard of a property at any time.
- Water shall be provided onsite and accessible to backyard chickens at all times.
- An animal that attacks, injures, or kills a backyard chicken that is not on its permitted property shall not be deemed an “animal that cre-

ates a danger” and the owner shall not be charged with violating any provisions of Section 7-153 of the Code.

- Many homeowner association bylaws do not allow backyard chickens. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to confirm that any homeowner association bylaws applicable to the property do not disallow backyard chickens prior to submitting an application.
- All regulations and conditions from Section 7-167 of the Code not specifically listed in this brochure must be fully complied with. A copy of Section 7-167 is attached to the backyard chicken permit application.
- A backyard chicken permit may be revoked by the City’s code enforcement officer if it is determined that the use is not being operated in a safe and clean manner or if the permitted property is not in compliance with Section 7-167 of the Code.

Steps to Obtain a Permit

1. Submit a backyard chicken permit application to the City. The application can be found at City Hall, located at 130 S. McKinley Ave., Fort Lupton, Colorado 80621.
2. Submit the following with the application:
 - \$30.00 permit application fee.
 - Proof of ownership of the property.
 - Site plan showing the location of the proposed chicken coop and chicken run in relation to the existing structures on the property.
3. Construct a chicken coop and chicken run that complies with the regulations listed in Section 7-167, paragraph (o), of the Code. A copy of Section 7-167 is attached to the back-

yard chicken permit application.

4. Request a chicken coop and chicken run inspection by contacting the City’s Planning & Building Department at 303.857.6694.
5. Once the chicken coop and chicken run are found to comply with Section 7-167 of the Code by a designated City official, a non-transferable backyard chicken permit will be issued to the Applicant.

Things to Know

There are risks you must be aware of prior to deciding if keeping backyard chickens is right for you.

Potential Dangers

Predators

Backyard chickens commonly attract predators and other wildlife. Precautions should be taken in order to minimize the dangers of predator intrusions. Ways to minimize the threat include:

1. From dusk until dawn, backyard chickens must be enclosed in a secure chicken coop. During daylight hours, backyard chickens shall have access to a chicken run that is adequately fenced and protected from predators and chicken coop.
2. Keep in mind that predators can dig underneath chicken coops and chicken runs. It is a good idea to construct enclosures so that wire mesh or other durable materials go underground as well.
3. Predators can also come from above, therefore a roof enclosure made of wire or other durable materials is recommended for both the chicken coop and chicken run.
4. Store chicken feed and chicken waste in a