



**BUILDING INSPECTION**  
 385 Kimbark Street, Longmont, CO 80501  
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 www.longmontcolorado.gov

## Backyard Chicken Hen

Backyard chicken hen permits are required before one can legally own and keep chicken hens in non-agricultural zoning districts in the City of Longmont. This form must be filled out in its entirety prior to being issued a backyard chicken hen permit. Please read the requirements for keeping backyard chickens and if you have questions, please contact Ben Ortiz at (303) 774-4725. Chicken hen permits are issued on a one-time basis. Annual renewal fees are not required.

<b>Applicant Information</b>
Name of Permit Holder:
Applicant address: (Must be same location as where chickens will be kept)
Phone:
Email:
<b>Chicken Coop Considerations</b>
Do you intend on using a coop that was in existence prior to February 1, 2009? Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes AND the coop is closer than Six (6') feet to any side and/or rear property line, you must have written consent from the adjacent property owner(s). In the event of a complaint about the placement of your coop, you must provide the letter from the adjacent property owner agreeing to its placement. No other set back variances for coops built after February 2009 shall be granted even with written approval from the adjacent property owner. Please attach the letters from the property owners adjacent to where the coop is to be kept to your permit so that it may be presented to a Code Compliance Office in the event it is requested.
<b>Free Ranging Chickens Considerations</b>
Do you intend on allowing your chickens to free range? Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, then you must have written consent from all abutting property owners. In the event of a complaint over free-ranging chickens, you will be asked to supply a Code Compliance Office with written proof from all of your abutting neighbors that chickens may free-range in the backyard of your property. Please attach the letters from the abutting property owners to your permit so that they may be presented to a Code Compliance Officer in the event they are requested.
<b>Permit Submittal Requirements</b>
1. \$30.00 permit fee (cash, credit card, or check payable to "City of Longmont")
2. Signed and dated backyard chicken hen permit application

### **Regulations for Keeping Backyard Chicken Hens**

1. No person may own or keep any fowl (except chicken hens), including ducks, quail, geese, turkeys, or pigeons, in districts not zoned Agricultural.
2. No more than four (4) chicken hens are permitted per parcel.
3. Rooster are prohibited in ay zoning district not zoned agricultural or except as provided in section 15.04.030, Livestock uses for educational and scientific research.
4. Chicken hens are to be restricted to the rear or backyard of any lot in a residential zoning district or the rear or backyard of a residential use in all other zoning districts.
5. Backyard chicken hens may not free-range and are restricted to the coop and run. The restriction on free-ranging may be waived with written permission from all abutting property owners.
6. Any animal that attacks, injures or kills a chicken not on the chicken keeper's property shall not be deemed an "aggressive animal" nor shall the owner of such animal be charge with Aggressive Animal pursuant to section 7.04.190. It is the sole responsibility of the chicken keeper to ensure their chickens do not leave their property.
7. Chicken coops shall be predator proof with a solid top.
8. Water shall be provided to the chickens at all times.
9. Coops and associated runs shall be limited in size to a maximum of 120 square feet.
10. At least four (4) square feet of space per chicken shall be provided (includes coop and run).
11. Coops shall be no taller than seven (7) feet at the highest point of the roof.
12. Coops are not to be located between the rear of the structure and the front yard lot line.
13. Coops shall be at least six (6) feet from any other structure and at least six (6) feet from any side or rear property line, except that any coop in existence as of February 1, 2009, shall be exempt from this set-back requirement, provided such coop meets the requirements of this subsection, and provided further that the owner of such existing coop obtain the agreement of any neighbor whose property abuts such existing coop.
14. All coops shall be regularly cleaned to control dust, odor, and waste and not constitute a nuisance, safety hazard, or health problem to surrounding properties.
15. No slaughtering allowed.
16. Chicken feed must be stored in a re-sealable, airtight, metal, rat-proof container, to discourage attracting mice, rats, and other vermin.
17. A city permit is required for all chicken hen coops and no more than one permit per household shall be issued.
18. A permit may be revoked upon the conviction of the permit holder of a violation of section 7.04 of the Longmont Municipal Code.

**MANY HOME OWNER ASSOCIATION BYLAWS DO NOT ALLOW POULTRY OF ANY KIND INCLUDING CHICKENS. APPLICANTS SHOULD CHECK THEIR HOA BYLAWS TO CONFIRM THAT CHICKEN HENS ARE NOT DISSALLOWED.**

#### **APPLICANT CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the information submitted is true and correct. In submitting the signed application, I acknowledge and agree that the application is subject to all the terms and conditions for a Backyard Chicken Hen permit found in Title 7.04 of the City of Longmont Municipal Codes. I understand that any false statements or omissions may result in denial or revocation of this permit. I further acknowledge that I have read the applicable regulations attached to this permit and agree to fully comply with the regulations set forth by the City of Longmont and any terms and conditions imposed by the decision making body as they relate to the Backyard Chicken Hen Permit.

**Applicant Signature:**

**Date:**