

**CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY**

ORDINANCE 231, SECOND SERIES

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND LOCAL REGULATIONS
REGARDING THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS**

SUMMARY OF SECTIONS AMENDED:

- 8-3-2 *Animals and Fowl – keeping, transporting, treatment, housing;*
- 8-3-3 *Animal Waste;*
- 8-3-4 *Non-Domestic Animals; and*
- 8-3-5 *Keeping of Bees.*

THE CITY OF SAINT FRANCIS ORDAINS:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of St. Francis hereby amends City Code Chapter 8 (Public Protection), Section 8 (Animals) as follows:

Existing section 8-3-1, Dog Licensing and Regulation, is restated and incorporated herein unchanged.

Existing section 8-3-2 is hereby renumbered to 8-3-3 and is amended to include the following changes:

8 - 3 - 2 3 ANIMALS AND FOWL – KEEPING, TRANSPORTING, TREATMENT, HOUSING

- A. Except for chickens which may be allowed on limited acreage in accordance with Section 8-3-2, it ~~It~~ is unlawful for any person to keep, stable, board, or harbor horses, colts, ponies, mules, goats, sheep, cattle, pigs, and other farm-type animals, mink, chickens, ducks, pigeons, geese, and other fowl, whether owned or not, unless the person has sufficient contiguous real estate to house and enclose said animals or fowl.

Subsections B through M are restated and incorporated herein unchanged.

Existing section 8-3-3, Animal Waste, is hereby renumbered to 8-3-4 but is otherwise restated and incorporated herein unchanged.

Existing section 8-3-4, Non-Domestic Animals, is hereby renumbered to 8-3-5 but is otherwise restated and incorporated herein unchanged.

Existing section 8-3-5, Keeping of Bees, is hereby renumbered to 8-3-6 but is otherwise restated and incorporated herein unchanged.

The following new language is hereby added as Section 8-3-2

8 - 3 - 2 CHICKENS

- A. Findings.** The Council finds that the ability to cultivate one's own food is a sustainable activity that can also be a rewarding past time. Therefore, it is the purpose and intent of this Section to permit the limited keeping and maintenance of chicken hens for eggs and meat sources in a clean and sanitary manner that is not a nuisance to or detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare of the community.
- B. Definitions.** For the purposes of this Section:
1. "Chicken" means a domesticated bird that serves as a source of eggs or meat.
 2. "Coop" means a structure for the keeping or housing of chickens
 3. "Hen" means a female chicken.
 4. "Rooster" means a male chicken.
 5. "Run" means a fully enclosed and covered area attached to a coop where the chicken(s) can roam unsupervised.
- C. Keeping of Chickens.** The raising, harboring, maintaining, and keeping of Chickens within the City of St. Francis shall be limited to properties within following zoning classifications: A-1, A-2, A-3, R-R, R-1, and R-2; as determined by Chapter 10 of City Code.
1. On parcels of less than five (5) acres, the provisions within Section 8-3-2 shall apply.
 2. On parcels of five (5) acres or more, the Animal and Fowl provisions within Section 8-3-3 shall apply.

D. In General.

1. The keeping of roosters is prohibited.
2. The butchering of chickens on-site is prohibited.
3. On properties of less than 2.5 acres, no more than five (5) chickens shall be kept on the permitted premises.
4. On properties of 2.5 acres or more, no more than ten (10) chickens shall be kept on the permitted premises.
5. Chickens must be confined on the permitted premises at all times in a chicken coop or chicken run, and may not be kept in any part of the principal dwelling, garage, front yard, or side yard.
6. All chicken grains and feed must be stored in a rodent proof container.
7. The use of chickens for cockfighting is prohibited.
8. Fowl manure and other waste shall not be allowed to accumulate to create offensive odors. Accumulations of manure and other waste shall be removed at such periods as will insure that no objectionable aroma exists and the premises shall not be allowed to become unsightly or harbor rodents, flies, or insects.
9. It is unlawful for any person to treat a chicken in a cruel or inhumane manner.
10. It is unlawful for any person to keep a chicken in a coop or run infested by rodents, vermin, flies, or insects.

E. Coop and Run.

1. All chickens shall be provided access to both a coop and run.
2. A coop and run is exempt from accessory structure maximums as may be established in Chapter 10 of City Code.
3. All fencing and electrical work associated with a chicken coop or run shall be consistent with applicable building and zoning codes, and all appropriate permits and/or licenses shall be obtained prior to construction.
4. Any chicken coop or run shall be set back at least fifteen (15) feet from the property line, and shall be located closer to the principal dwelling on the permitted property than to any principal dwelling on adjacent properties.

5. Any coop or run shall be set back at least twenty- five (25) feet from the following features:
 - a. A delineated wetland edge;
 - b. The top of a bank of a pond, filtration basin, or infiltration basin.
 6. Chicken coops shall have a maximum footprint area of ten (10) square feet per chicken, and a minimum footprint area of five (5) square feet per chicken.
 7. Chicken runs shall have a maximum footprint area of twenty (20) square feet per chicken, and a minimum footprint area of ten (10) square feet per chicken.
 8. The coop shall be elevated a minimum of twelve (12) inches off the ground, and may not exceed a height of six (6) feet as measured from the ground.
 9. No coop or run shall be located in any form of easement or right-of-way.
 10. Both the coop and run shall be completely enclosed and be rodent proof.
 11. The coop shall provide adequate protection from the elements and shall be winterized if chickens are being kept between November 1st and April 30th of any given year.
 12. Once an owner is finished raising chickens or if a permit is revoked, the coop and run shall be removed from the property.
- F. Permit.** No person shall own, harbor, or keep within the City a hen chicken unless a valid permit for such chicken has been obtained pursuant to the following provisions.
1. A permit shall be obtained prior to any chickens being introduced to a site. All permits will remain in effect until voluntarily cancelled or revoked. Valid permits may be revoked by the City if this section is repealed in its entirety or is modified. Permits are non-transferrable.
 2. Permit application fees are due upon submittal of the permit application. The fee will be established yearly by ordinance.
 3. No permit shall be issued to a rental property unless the property owner provides written consent to the application. For properties located within a managed community with a Home Ownership Association (HOA), the association management must provide written consent to the application.

4. Application. Any person desiring a permit under this Section shall make written application on a form prescribed by the City which shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:
 - a. A scaled drawing (site plan) showing the location, size, and dimensions of the coop & run. The site plan shall include the proposed distances between the coop & run from neighboring homes and other structures on the subject property, neighboring property lines, and applicable required setbacks.
 - b. The maximum number of chickens to be kept on site.
 - c. A detailed feces and waste removal plan.
 - d. An agreement by the applicant that the premises may be inspected by the city at all reasonable times to ensure compliance with all applicable conditions.
 - e. Statements that the applicant will at all times keep their chickens in accordance with all of the conditions prescribed by the City (or modification thereof), and that failure to obey such conditions will constitute a violation of the provisions of this Section and will be grounds for cancellation of the permit.
5. Site Visit Required. An inspection of the property, coop, and run is required prior to the initial issuance of a permit.
6. Permit Allotment. A maximum of twenty (20) permits will be issued citywide for properties that are less than 2.5 acres in size; there is no maximum on the number of permits for properties that are 2.5 acres or greater.
7. Permit Conditions. If granted, the permit shall be issued and shall state the conditions, if any, imposed upon the property for the keeping of chickens under the permit. The permit shall specify the restrictions, limitations, conditions and prohibitions which the City deems reasonably necessary to protect any person or neighboring use from unsanitary conditions, unreasonable noise or odors, or annoyance, or to protect the public health and safety.
8. Denial or Revocation. The City may deny or revoke any permit, permit application, or renewal application if it deems the applicant is:
 - a. Unable or unwilling to fulfill or comply with the provisions of Section 8-3-2;
 - b. Submitting inaccurate or incomplete permit information;

- c. Failing to meet the conditions of an issued permit;
- d. Creating a nuisance; or
- e. If the public health and safety would be unreasonably endangered by the granting or renewing of such a permit.


Any person whose permit is revoked shall, within ten (10) days thereafter, humanely dispose of all chickens being owned, kept, or harbored by such person, and no part of the permit fee shall be refunded.

- 9. Complaints. If a complaint regarding a chicken permit is received, the permit holder shall consent to an inspection of the property to demonstrate that all minimum standards and conditions of the permit are being met. Refusal to consent to an inspection shall be grounds for revocation of the permit.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect on the later of 30 days after its publication.


PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
THIS 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2017.

APPROVED:



Steven D. Feldman
Mayor of St. Francis

ATTEST:



Barbara I. Held
City Clerk

