



## FREEHOLD BOROUGH RESIDENTIAL CHICKEN PERMIT APPLICATION

**LICENSE FEE: INITIAL: \$50**

**RENEWAL: \$20**

Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_ Lot: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Dwelling:

\_\_\_\_\_ Single family \_\_\_\_\_ Two-family \_\_\_\_\_ Multi-family \_\_\_\_\_ Townhouse \_\_\_\_\_ Apt./Condo \_\_\_\_\_

### **Applicant Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Coop/Enclosure Information:**

Number of chickens (max 6 hens): \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions of chicken coop: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of coop/enclosure: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how chickens will be protected from predators and rodents:

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Describe how food and waste for chickens will be maintained:

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### **THE FOLLOWING MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH APPLICATION**

Please submit a scaled sketch with proposed improvements for your chickens. The sketch shall include:

- Location and size of your lot
- Location and size of your house
- Location, size and type of all structures and containment areas for the chickens (coop, pen and fencing)
- Setbacks of chicken structure
- Proof of the completion of an appropriate educational course on the proper keeping of backyard chickens

## PERMITEE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By initialing the following items and providing signature below, you acknowledge that you understand the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ No person may keep a rooster.
- \_\_\_\_\_ There shall be no butchering of chickens on site.
- \_\_\_\_\_ No eggs shall be sold or made available for public consumption.
- \_\_\_\_\_ No person may allow chickens to fly or range freely outside an enclosure.
- \_\_\_\_\_ No person may keep chickens inside a building used wholly, or in part , for dwelling purposes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken enclosures must be clean, dry, odor-free and kept in neat and sanitary conditions at all times.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chickens must be provided a secure coop/henhouse that meet Ord. 8.56.6D(5).
- \_\_\_\_\_ All food and water stored for use of the hens shall be kept in a rodent and predator proof container.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The keeping of chickens shall be in such a manner as to not create a public nuisance.

I have read and understand the conditions under which I may keep chickens, as set forth in this application and **Freehold Borough Ordinance 8.56.280** and I agree to abide by these conditions. Failure to remain compliant will be subject to a fine or the removal of all chickens and chicken-related structures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Name (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Health Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

\$50 or \$20 License Fee Paid: Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ Check: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

License Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance No: BOH 2020/1

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Meeting Date: July 9, 2020

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Meeting Date: September 10, 2020

**ORDINANCE OF THE FREEHOLD BOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH AMENDING  
CHAPTER 8.56 (BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS) SECTION 8.56.280  
(DOMESTIC ANIMALS) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE  
BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD**

**WHEREAS**, the Freehold Borough Board of Health has determined that raising and keeping of hens be permitted under certain conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey encourages municipalities to promote sustainable activities and programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the keeping of “backyard chicken hens” is a means by which sustainability can be attained; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Health, with the consent of the governing body, wishes to allow for and provide standards for the keeping of chickens for non-commercial use.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED as follows:**

**SECTION I**

**Section 8.56** (Board of Health Regulations), be amended and supplemented as follows:

**Article 6  
General Regulations**

**8.56.280 Domestic Animals**

**8.56.280D. Chickens.**

**8.56.280D(1)** The purpose of this Section is to allow and provide for standards for the keeping of domesticated chickens. It is intended to enable residents to keep a small number of female chickens on a non-commercial basis while creating standards and requirements that ensure that domestic chickens do not adversely impact the neighborhood surrounding the property on which the chickens are kept. As used herein, the term “chicken” shall only refer to female chickens, also known as hens. Male chickens (roosters) are not permitted.

**(2)** No person shall keep, harbor or raise chickens or permit same to be kept, harbored or raised within the limits of the Borough without a permit to do so from the

Board of Health, which permit shall be revocable at any time by the Board. Permits shall be issued annually and are personal to the permittee and may not be assigned.

(i) The fee for an initial permit shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00). Thereafter, the fee for the renewal of the annual permit shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00).

(ii) The applicant for a permit to keep chickens must demonstrate compliance with the criteria and standards set forth herein.

(iii) The application and all renewals shall be submitted to the Secretary to the Board of Health.

(iv) If the applicant resides in two-family dwelling or multi-family dwelling (other than townhouse, condominium or apartment building) the application shall contain the consent of all residents of the subject dwelling

(v) If the applicant resides in a townhouse or condominium or apartment building the application shall contain the consent of the landlord, co-op association or condominium association.

(vi) Any landlord, co-op association, condominium or homeowners association shall have the right to ban or permit the keeping of chickens subject to the regulations herein.

(v) Each applicant must provide proof of completion of an appropriate educational course on the proper keeping of chickens.

**(3).** The maximum number of chickens permitted per building or residential lot, regardless of how many dwelling units are on the lot, is 6.

**(4).** Chickens shall be kept for personal use only. No person shall sell eggs or engage in chicken breeding, slaughtering or fertilizer production for commercial purposes. Chickens may not be slaughtered on the property.

### **(5). Enclosures**

(i) Chickens must be kept in an enclosure or fenced area at all times during daylight hours, which enclosure shall be in the rear yard, not visible from the street. Enclosures must be clean, dry and odor-free, kept in a neat and sanitary condition at all times, in a manner that will not disturb the use and enjoyment of neighboring properties due to noise, odor or other adverse impact. The enclosure must provide adequate sun and shade and must be impermeable to rodents, wild birds and predators, including dogs and cats. This enclosure must provide a minimum of five (5) square feet per adult bird.

(ii) Chickens shall be secured within a henhouse during non-daylight hours. The structure shall be enclosed on all sides and have a roof and doors. Access doors must be able to be shut and locked at night. Opening windows and vents must be covered with predator and birdproof wire of less than one (1) inch openings. The use of scrap, waste board, sheet metal or similar materials is prohibited. The henhouse must be well-maintained and provide a minimum of three (3) square feet per adult bird.

(iii) The henhouse and enclosure is permitted only in the rear yard and shall comply with the accessory structure setbacks for the zone, but not less than 10 feet from the property line and 15 feet from any dwelling on the property and not less than twenty-five (25) feet from any dwelling on an adjoining lot.

(iv) Henhouses shall only be located in rear yards where a primary residence exists on the property. For a corner lot or other property where no rear yard exists, these facilities shall not be located any closer to a public street than the primary residence and shall not be located in any portion of the front yard. Henhouses are not permitted inside any part of a dwelling.

(v) Chickens shall be kept and maintained at all times in a humane manner and in accordance with good agricultural practices.

#### **(6) Predators, Rodents, Insects and Parasites**

(1) A permittee shall take all necessary action to reduce the attraction of predators and rodents and the potential infestation of insects and parasites. Chickens that are infested, diseased or having any other condition that presents a risk to human health and/or safety shall be promptly removed by the permittee. Deceased chickens shall be disposed of promptly in a sanitary manner.

#### **(7) Feed and Water.**

(i) Chickens must be provided with access to clean feed and water at all times.

(ii) All chicken feed shall be kept in a covered and secured container off the ground and shall be unavailable to rodents, wild birds and predators.

#### **(8) Waste storage and Removal**

(i) The henhouse, chicken pen/enclosure and surrounding area must be kept free from trash and accumulated droppings. Accumulated droppings or manure must be regularly removed in a proper and sanitary manner. All stored manure shall be covered by a fully enclosed container or compost bin.

#### **(9) Enforcement**

(i) The provisions of this ordinance may be enforced by the Freehold Borough Board of Health and/or the Freehold Borough Code Enforcement office.

(ii). Any violation of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine not to exceed one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars (\$1,250.00) dollars per offense. Additionally, the Board of Health may order the removal of the chickens and chicken-related structures, as appropriate in the event of a conviction of any provision of this ordinance which poses a risk to human health and/or safety, or the safety of the chickens.

### **SECTION II**

If any part of this Ordinance shall be deemed invalid such part shall be deemed severable and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining part of this Ordinance.

### **SECTION III**

Any Ordinance or portions thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed and superseded.

#### **SECTION IV**

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with Law.

# Stay healthy around animals!



Animals can carry germs that make people **sick**.



**Never** eat, drink, or put anything in your mouth around animals.



Older adults, pregnant women, and young children should be **extra careful** around animals.



**Wash your hands** with soap and water right after visiting animals.

[www.cdc.gov/handwashing](http://www.cdc.gov/handwashing)

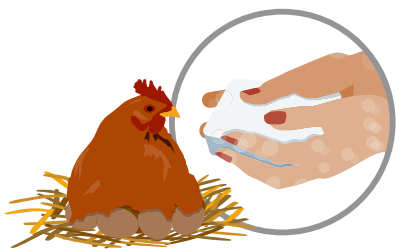


U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

# HEALTHY FAMILIES AND FLOCKS

Live poultry, such as chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys, often carry harmful germs such as *Salmonella*. While it usually doesn't make the birds sick, *Salmonella* can cause serious illness when it is passed to people.

## HANDWASHING PROTECTS YOU FROM GERMS



- Always wash your hands with soap and water right after touching live poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam.
- Adults should supervise handwashing for young children.
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

## HANDLE BIRDS SAFELY



- Children younger than 5 years, adults older than 65 years, and people with weakened immune systems should not handle or touch chicks, ducklings, or other live poultry.
- Do not bring chicks, ducklings and other live poultry to schools, childcare centers, or nursing homes.
- Do not snuggle or kiss the birds, touch your mouth, or eat or drink around live poultry.

## SAFELY CLEAN COOPS

- Clean any equipment used to care for live poultry outside, such as cages or feed or water containers.
- Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while taking care of poultry and keep those shoes outside of the house.



## POULTRY BELONG OUTSIDE

- Do not let live poultry inside the house, especially in kitchens.
- Do not let live poultry in areas where food or drink is prepared, served, or stored.



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Health and Human Services  
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**Have a Backyard Flock? Don't Wing it.**  
Visit [www.cdc.gov/features/salmonellapoultry](https://www.cdc.gov/features/salmonellapoultry)  
for more information