

Backyard Chickens
CIHA Board Recommendation
July 27, 2017

Three or fewer chickens may be kept in residential zones subject to the following conditions:

- A. Residents of owner occupied single-family homes are permitted to keep chickens. Persons renting single-family homes may not keep chickens without the express written consent of the owner. Chickens may not be kept by persons residing in a duplex or other multi-family unit.
- B. No farm animals other than chickens are permitted in residential zones.
- C. Chickens may be kept for personal use only. No animal may be kept for commercial purposes, including but not limited to the sale of live or slaughtered animals, animal parts, eggs, manure, or other byproduct.
- D. No person may keep a rooster unless the animal is kept inside the home, subject to a two-bird limit. "House roosters" are to be considered as pets kept similarly to dogs or cats, subject to anti-cruelty and welfare laws and must be banded with owner name and phone number. Because the gender of non-sex-linked birds cannot be determined prior to 6 months of age or more, this provision is intended as an alternative to slaughter, abandonment, or involuntary removal.
- E. Up to three hens older than 12 weeks shall be allowed. The owner or keeper of any chicken shall not allow the animal to be a nuisance to any neighbor, including but not limited to creating noxious odors and generating noise of a loud or persistent nature. Animals shall be kept in humane and sanitary conditions. Owners shall provide food, water, shelter, supplemental nutrients, clean living environment, adequate space, access to an outdoor exercise area, protection from predators, and periodic veterinary care.
- F. Chickens must be provided a secure, well ventilated, roofed structure or "coop" made of durable material. The roofed structure shall be fully enclosed, windproof, adequately insulated, and have sufficient windows for natural light. The structure shall provide a minimum of three square feet per chicken and must be connected to an outdoor pen or "runway". The pen shall provide a minimum of six square feet per chicken and must be securely constructed with at least a mesh-type material and shall have protective overhead netting. The pen must be well drained so there is no accumulation of moisture. The health or wellbeing of the animal shall not be in any way endangered by the manner of keeping or confinement. Mobile pens, chicken "tractors", or other mobile A-frames are prohibited as a primary coop.
- G. Coops, including connected pen, shall be located in a fully fenced rear yard no closer than five feet from the property line, dwelling, or other building on the subject property,

and no closer than 25 feet from neighboring dwellings. Chicken facilities shall be screened from public view and from the view of residents of adjacent properties by a sight-obscuring fence, wall, or hedge a minimum of six feet in height.

- H. Chickens must be kept in the roofed structure or attached pen whenever they are unattended by the keeper. When attended by the keeper, chickens are allowed to be kept in a detached mobile pen or completely fenced exercise yard. No person having the care, custody, and control of any fowl shall allow any fowl to run at large off the property of its owner or custodian. Adequate safeguards shall be made to prevent unauthorized access to the animals by members of the general public.
- I. All premises on which chickens are kept shall be kept clean from filth and garbage, maintained in good repair, and kept in a manner that does not attract pests, produce odor, or otherwise create a nuisance for neighboring residents. Feed shall be kept in a rodent-proof container. The floors and walls of the coop shall be kept in a clean, sanitary, and healthy condition with all droppings collected daily and placed in a fireproof covered container until applied as fertilizer, composted, or transported off the premises. One sealed container with a maximum size of twenty gallons is permitted for the storage of animal waste. Stored and composted manure shall be kept a minimum of five feet from the property line.
- J. The slaughtering of chickens on the premises is allowed in areas not visible to the public or neighboring residents and must be accomplished in a humane and sanitary fashion. All entrails and byproducts of the slaughtering process shall be properly discarded.
- K. The owner or keeper of any coop found to be a public nuisance who has been provided notice to abate the issue and has failed to correct the issue within the timeframe specified by the notice, typically 24 hours to 72 hours, is in violation of Tribal law. Such violation may result in the required removal of the coop and fowl at the property owner's expense or other action under Tribal law governing civil violations and private homeownership land leasing.
- L. The property owner shall maintain sufficient liability insurance. At a minimum, insurance shall be in a single incident amount of not less than \$50,000 for personal injury and property damages, covering all claims per occurrence, plus costs of defense. Proof of insurance shall be provided upon demand by Tribal authorities. Failure to maintain insurance may result in the required removal of the coop and fowl at the property owner's expense or other action under Tribal law governing private homeownership land leasing.