

# BACKYARD HEN PROGRAM PERMIT

On June 25, 2015 City Council Enacted Ordinance #2015-0337-E which would permit backyard hens in certain residential zoning districts in which they are currently not permitted. This ordinance shall not change the rights granted to properties located in the Agriculture and Rural Residential-Acre zoning districts pursuant to Section 656.401(A)(3), Ordinance Code. Please see Zoning Code [Sec.656.422-Chickens allowed in certain zoning districts](#) for full details of the program.

Additional Questions? Please call City Planner **Caroline Fulton (904) 255-7827**.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Number of Hens Allowed

- Up to 1 acre, allowed up to 5 Hens.
- 1.0 – 2.0 acres, allowed up to 10 Hens.
- More than 2.0 Acres, allowed up to 15 Hens (maximum allowed).

### Application Checklist

- Filled out [COJ Hen Permit Application](#)
- UF/IFAS Extension Office Chicken Keeping Seminar Certificate
- General Sketch of Property and Location of Coop
- \$25.00 Payable Check to Tax Collector

### Mailing Address

\*Please mail all required documents listed above.

Backyard Hen Program Permit  
Current Planning  
214 Hogan Street North Suite 300  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

**Please visit link below for UF/IFAS Extension Office Backyard Hen Class Registration and COJ Hen Permit Application:**

<https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/duval/agriculture-and-agribusiness-management/livestock-and-poultry/poultry/>

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

1. Chickens shall be kept in a coop or enclosure at all times.
2. The coop shall be screened from view from the neighboring property by an opaque fence or visual barrier.
3. Coops shall be located in the back yard except in the case of through lots.
4. Chickens and coops are not permitted in front or side yards except as provided in the Zoning Code.
5. Coops greater than 100 square feet in size require a building permit.
6. Coops shall be covered, ventilated, and secured from predators.

7. Coops shall provide a minimum of 3 square feet per chicken and be large enough to provide free movement.
8. The maximum height of a coop is 6 feet.
9. All stored feed shall be kept in a rodent and predator proof container.
10. Chickens are prohibited on duplex, triplex, or other multi-family properties.
11. Chickens are prohibited in mobile home/manufactured home parks, RV parks, or rental communities.
12. Male chickens (roosters) are prohibited.
13. Chickens shall be kept for personal use only. Breeding or selling chickens for commercial purposes is prohibited.
14. The selling of chickens, eggs, or manure from the property is prohibited.
15. Chickens shall not be allowed to trespass on neighboring properties.
16. Coops and enclosures shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition at all times.
17. A dog or cat that kills a chicken shall not, for that reason alone, be considered a dangerous or aggressive animal.
18. Unwanted chickens shall not be released or taken to Animal Care and Protective Services.
19. Unwanted chickens shall be taken to preapproved locations as determined by Animal Care and Protective Services.