

Kitchener Animal Bylaw

CHAPTER 408

Article 7

408.7.1

A person may keep up to four hens at a property in a residential zone under the Zoning By-law providing the conditions and requirements contained in this Article are met.

408.7.2

Every owner of hens and every owner of property on which hens are kept shall ensure that:

- (a) The owner of the hens has paid the applicable permit fee as set by Council from time to time, made application for, and obtained a permit from the City to allow the keeping of hens at that property;
- (b) The owner of the hens resides at the property
- (c) The property on which the hens are kept has residential zoning under the Zoning By-law and contains a single detached, semi-detached, or townhouse dwelling;
- (d) All owner(s) and all adult occupant(s) of the property have consented in writing to the satisfaction of the City to the keeping of hens at the property;
- (e) The hens are kept in fully enclosed coop or run in a manner that contains the hens on the property and prevents their escape from such coop or run;
- (f) The coop and any run are within the rear yard, exterior side yard, or interior side yard of the property; and

- (g) The coop and any run are set back at least ½ metres from the rear lot line and at least 2.5 metres from any interior side lot line or exterior side lot line of the property and at least 2.5 metres from any rear lot line abutting an exterior side yard or interior side yard of another property unless all owner(s) and all adult occupant(s) of any property from which the aforementioned setbacks are not in place have consented in writing to the satisfaction of the City to the placement of the coop or run.

408.7.3

When a coop is built within a shed or other structure, only the portion actually used to house hens shall be required to meet the setback requirements of section 408.7.2.

408.7.4

Every owner of hens and every property owner on which hens are kept shall ensure the hens are housed in a coop that is constructed and maintained;

- (a) To provide protection from weather and be adequately ventilated;
- (b) To exclude rodents and predators;
- (c) With flooring that is resistant to moisture and mold and retains heat in the cold weather;
- (d) With a chicken box sufficient to accommodate all hens;
- (e) With a perch area sufficient to accommodate all hens; and
- (f) With an accessible dust bath area

408.7.5

Every owner of hens and every property owner on which hens are kept shall ensure that:

- (a) Coops and runs are maintained in a clean condition;
- (b) Coops and runs are maintained to ensure that smells do not cause a nuisance to residents of any neighbouring property or any residents of the City;

- (c) Coop floor are lined with shaving, straw, or other appropriate materials to absorb manure and facilitate cleaning;
- (d) Coops are deep cleaned at least two times yearly including disinfecting of troughs, perches and nests;
- (e) Feeders and water containers are provided and are cleaned and disinfected regularly;
- (f) All stored feed is kept in rodent proof containers and secured at all times to prevent rodents and other animals from accessing it;
- (g) Feeding of hens is done in a manner that minimizes the attraction of rodents or other animals;
- (h) Manure and droppings are cleaned out daily and stored in a secured container or composter in accordance with compost regulations until disposed of in accordance with all applicable law and regulations;
- (i) Each hen is banded with such band containing current contact information for the hen's owner;
- (j) Hens have access to an enclosed outdoor run area;
- (k) Deceased hens are disposed of at a livestock disposal facility, through the services of a veterinarian, chicken exchange program, or through a facility as approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs and are disposed of in accordance with all laws;
- (l) There is no sale of eggs, manure or other products associated with the keeping of hens;
- (m) No slaughtering or butchering of hens is done on the property;
- (n) Hens are kept in accordance with all other laws including the City's by-laws respecting noise, lot maintenance, property standards, and animals as well as provincial legislation respecting the keeping of animals.

408.7.6

(1) An owner or adult occupant of property may withdraw consent to placement of a hen coop or run that is closer to their property than otherwise required by submitting written notice to the satisfaction of the City to the City's Director of By-law Enforcement. Where such consent is withdrawn, the City shall notify the owner of the property where the coop or run is placed that consent has been withdrawn.

(2) Where the City notifies a property owner that consent to have the coop or run closer to a property than otherwise required has been withdrawn, that the owner of the property on which hens are kept shall ensure that the coop or run is removed or relocated within a permitted area by the later of Nove 1 of that calendar year or six(6) months following the date of notification being given.