

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN

BY-LAW NO. 2025-07

**A BY-LAW TO AMEND ZONING BY-LAW NO. 2017-70, AS AMENDED
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN**

WHEREAS the Township of West Lincoln Council is empowered to enact this by-law by virtue of the provisions of Section 34 of the Planning Act, 1990, as amended;

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Part 2 – Definitions of Zoning By-law 2017-70, be amended by adding the following Definitions:

“Backyard Chickens” means a hen (female chicken at least four months old) kept for companionship as a pet or for the purpose of providing food for the personal consumption of occupants of a main dwelling on the same lot, and shall not include roosters, waterfowl or other non-domesticated birds.

“Coop” means a fully enclosed, locking, weatherproof structure where hens are kept and the interior of which contains nest boxes for egg laying, roosts for hens to sleep on and containers for food and water.

“Chicken Run” means a covered, fully fenced and secure enclosure that allows hens access to the outdoors from the coop.

2. That Part 3 – General Provisions of Zoning By-law 2017-70, be amended to include the following:

Section 3.8.3 Backyard Chickens

The following regulations apply to *backyard chickens*:

- (a) No person shall keep *backyard chickens* except where permitted and in accordance with these regulations, and regulations and standards of the Animal Care and Control By-law 2023-54, as amended from time to time:
 - (i) Maximum of six (6) hens are permitted per lot.
 - (ii) Required enclosures (coop and run) shall not exceed 3 metres in height.
 - (iii) Required enclosures (coop and run) shall be located in the rear yard.
 - (iv) Required enclosures (coop and run) shall be a minimum of 3 metres from all lot lines.
 - (v) Combined floor area of the coop and run shall not exceed 15 square metres.
- (b) Roosters are prohibited.
- (c) The slaughter or processing of backyard chickens is prohibited on site.

3. That Part 3 – General Provisions of Zoning By-law 2017-70, be amended by deleting Section 3.13 Prohibited Uses subsection (h) and replacing with the following:

Section 3.13 Prohibited Uses

- (h) Keeping or raising of any livestock, exotic bird, reptile or wild animal including tamed or domesticated wild animal or exotic bird or reptile on any residential lot or in any building or structure in a Residential Zone within a Settlement Area, but this shall not prevent the keeping of up to three (3) of any type of household pet, such as dogs, cats, hamsters, mice, turtles, and up to four (4) rabbits, unless otherwise permitted in this By-law.

- That Part 6 – Residential Zones of Zoning By-law 2017-70, specifically Section 6.2 Permitted Uses and Table 13: Permitted Uses in Residential Zones be amended to include the following:

Table 13: Permitted Uses in Residential Zones

Uses	Zones where Permitted												
Principal Uses													
Apartment dwelling											RM3	RM4	RH
Duplex dwelling										RM2			
Fourplex dwelling										RM2	RM3		
Retirement home													RH
Semi-detached dwelling						R2	R3	RM1	RM2	RM3			
Single detached dwelling	RuR	R1A	R1B	R1C	R1D	R2	R3						
Stacked townhouse dwelling											RM3	RM4	
Street townhouse dwelling									RM1	RM2	RM3		
Back to Back townhouse dwelling												RM4	
Townhouse dwelling										RM2	RM3		
Triplex dwelling										RM2	RM3		
Accessory Uses ⁽¹⁾													
Accessory buildings or structures and accessory uses (see s. 3.1)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾	R2 ⁽¹⁾	R3 ⁽¹⁾	RM1 ⁽¹⁾	RM2 ⁽¹⁾	RM3 ⁽¹⁾	RM4 ⁽¹⁾		RH ⁽¹⁾
Accessory dwelling unit (see s. 3.2)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾	R2 ⁽¹⁾	R3 ⁽¹⁾	RM1	RM2	RM3	RM4		RH
Bed and breakfast establishment (see s. 3.4)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾								
Boarding or rooming house	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾						RM3 ⁽¹⁾		
Garden suite (see s. 3.2)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾								
Group home (see s. 3.6)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾	R2 ⁽¹⁾	R3 ⁽¹⁾						
Home occupation (see s. 3.7)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾	R2 ⁽¹⁾	R3 ⁽¹⁾						
Renewable energy system (see s. 3.15)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾	R1B ⁽¹⁾	R1C ⁽¹⁾	R1D ⁽¹⁾	R2 ⁽¹⁾	R3 ⁽¹⁾	RM1 ⁽¹⁾	RM2 ⁽¹⁾	RM3 ⁽¹⁾			RH ⁽¹⁾
Backyard Chickens (see s.3.8.3)	RuR ⁽¹⁾	R1A ⁽¹⁾											

(1) Denotes uses that are only permitted accessory to or in conjunction with a permitted principal use.

- That regulations for the coop and run enclosures, manure storage, and animal care are found in the Animal Care and Control By-law 2023-54, as amended from time to time.
- That all other provisions of Zoning By-law 2017-70, as amended continue to apply.
- That the Clerk of the Township of West Lincoln is hereby authorized to effect any minor modifications or corrections to the By-law of a descriptive, numerical or grammatical nature as may be deemed necessary after passage of this By-law.
- That this By-law shall become effective from and after the date of passing thereof.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD

**TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS
24 DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2025**

MAYOR CHERYL GANANN

JUSTIN PAYLOVE, CLERK

EXPLANATION OF THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF BY-LAW NO. 2025-07

The purpose of this By-law is to address the permissions for backyard chickens within the Township. These regulations are to control the accessory use that is to be incidental to the principle use including the location and setbacks for the backyard chickens and their coops/enclosures.

A Public Meeting was held on October 15, 2024 and members of the public provided oral comments. Survey and written comments were additionally received by the public and agencies. All comments received were evaluated by Staff and Council through their decision.

File: 1601-002-24
Township of West Lincoln