



URBAN CHICKEN PROGRAM

The program is designed to allow the citizens of Lake Wales to raise a limited number of backyard chickens and in a manner that has limited impact on the City and the citizenry.

The program will be administered by the Department of Planning and Development.

The limited keeping of chickens may be permitted in a single-family residential backyard subject to the following conditions:

1. Subject properties must contain only one single-family dwelling unit.
2. Property owners must sign the application in the case of a leased property in addition to the applicant.
3. Chickens are limited to domestic hens (females). **ROOSTERS ARE PROHIBITED.**
4. No more than four (4) chickens are allowed per participating household.
5. Adequate shelter, care and control of the chickens are required. This must include arrangements for times when the participant may be out of town for extended periods of time.
6. Chickens must be contained within a covered chicken coop and fenced pen area. These shall be located in the rear half of the residential lot behind the principal structure. Specifically, the coop and fenced pen area shall be set back twenty (20) feet from any residential structure that is not located on the participating premises. A minimum setback of five (5) feet is required from the side and rear property lines of the participating premises.
7. Materials used for coops and pens shall be uniform and kept in good condition to protect the safety of the chickens. Pens shall include a coop (enclosed structure) containing a minimum of 1.5 square feet per hen and an open run area containing a minimum of 8 square feet per hen. Pens may be portable.
8. All pens shall be constructed and maintained so as to be impermeable to rodents, wild birds, and predators, including dogs and cats, and to prevent such animals or other pests from being harbored underneath, inside, or within the walls of the enclosure. All pens must be kept dry, well-ventilated, and in sanitary condition at all times, and must be cleaned on a regular basis to prevent offensive odors. All manure not used for

composting or fertilizing shall be removed promptly. Odors from chickens, manure, or other chicken-related substances shall not be detectable at the property boundaries.

9. All feed or other material intended for consumption by the chickens shall be kept in containers impenetrable by rats or other rodents, and such containers shall be equipped with tightly fitting caps or lids. All feeding shall be conducted in a manner so as to prevent unconsumed food from being accessible to other animals or rodents. The presence of rodents in an area for the keeping of chickens may result in the termination of participation in the pilot program.
10. Slaughtering of chickens is prohibited.
11. Violations of the Program conditions will be subject to Section 6-4 of the *Lake Wales Code of Ordinances*.



**CITY OF LAKE WALES, POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA
URBAN CHICKEN PROGRAM APPLICATION**

DATE: _____

APPLICANT: _____

Property Owner (if different from applicant): _____

PREMISES ADDRESS: _____

PRIMARY CONTACT NUMBER: _____

Secondary contact person and phone number: _____

Number of chickens on premises: _____ (up to 4 chickens allowed)

Size of pen: length: _____ **width:** _____ **height:** _____

Total square footage of coop: _____ **Total square footage of open run:** _____

Distance of pen from adjacent principal structures: _____

Distance of pen from property lines: _____

Agreement:

By signing this statement, the applicant agrees that the premises may be inspected at all reasonable times so as to assure compliance with the conditions outlined in the documents governing the Program and the *Lake Wales Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6*, as they may be amended from time to time.

Applicant

Date

Property Owner (if different from applicant)

Date

Official Use Only

Date Received: _____

Date Reviewed: _____

Date of site inspection: _____

Pass _____ **Fail** _____

Authorization by the City of Lake Wales

Please submit your application to the City of Lake Wales Code Compliance Division in person or via email at CodeCompliance@LakeWalesFL.gov
Questions Please call 863-678-4182 x 1151