

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA**

**REPORT NO. DS-2019-0104**

**FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF  
COUNCIL**

**AUGUST 14, 2019**

**SUBJECT: URBAN HENS  
FILE NO. 05.261**

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**1. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. That Council receive Report No. DS-2019-0104 prepared by the Planning Division, Development Services Department dated August 14, 2019 on Urban Hens.**
- 2. That Council authorize a public consultation process concerning the permissibility of urban hens as set out in Report No. DS-2019-0104.**
- 3. That Staff be directed to report on the results of the public consultation process and provide updated options and recommendations concerning the possible permissibility of Urban Hens.**

**2. PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to respond to the referral by Council of a deputation by Melody Bertolini dated August 10, 2016 and related petition requesting a relaxation of existing regulations to permit up to five hens to be kept per urban household, and to address the issues and options associated with permitting limited hen husbandry in urban areas in Georgina.

**3. BACKGROUND:**

**3.1 PETITION AND REFERRAL**

On August 10, 2016 Council received a deputation from Melody Bertolini requesting a relaxation of existing regulations to permit up to five hens to be kept per urban household, and to address the issues and options associated with permitting limited hen husbandry in urban areas in Georgina. The subject petition was signed by 385 residents. The subject petition and related notes is provided as Attachment No. 1. The petition suggests that:

“Keeping urban hens on a smaller level in the Community is a healthy form of teaching and feeding our families in a sustainable way. Managed well, hens are quiet, clean and quite personable. Chickens pose zero risk to our health, safety and add immense benefit... pesticide and hormone free eggs.”

At the August 10, 2016 meeting, Council adopted a resolution as follows:

“RESOLUTION NO. C-2016-0423

That the delegation made by Melody Bertolini presenting a petition to Council requesting the keeping of 2-5 backyard urban hens per household in Georgina, regardless of zoning, be received and referred to staff to investigate the potential for the Corporation to entertain such an initiative.” (Refer to Attachment No. 2)

### 3.2 URBAN AGRICULTURE

There is an increasing interest today surrounding access to fresh, healthy, organic and sustainable food and in urban agriculture. This is taking place in a variety of urban and rural settings in communities across Canada.

Urban agriculture, is the practice of cultivating, processing, and distributing food in or around a settlement area (city, town village / hamlet). Urban agriculture can involve animal husbandry, aquaculture, agroforestry, urban beekeeping, and horticulture. Animal husbandry in urban areas has been permitted in a number of municipalities across the Country by way of pilot projects and adjustments to zoning regulations and animal control by-laws.

There is growing interest in the keeping of chickens, particularly as a means of easy and accessible fresh egg production in a variety of non-traditional urban and suburban settings across North America. This practise has been referred to in a number of ways including “Backyard Chickens” and “Urban Hens”. For the purpose of this report, the matter is referred to as Urban Hens.

### 3.3 URBAN HENS – SOME INFORMATION<sup>i</sup>

There are over 300 different breeds of chickens in North America. Most commercial chicken egg production utilizes white leghorn chickens. This breed is noisy, but has a very high production of white eggs. The animals are not very docile or conducive to an urban backyard environment. Urban chicken owners often use a variety of chickens known as “heritage breeds” and include the Rhode Island Red, Barred Red and other breeds which are heartier and more conducive to an urban environment.

- Typically urban hens are kept for egg production and not meat.

- Roosters (male) chickens are not typically permitted to be kept in urban residential settings due to loud roosting activity and other disruptive behaviors. Chickens must grow to an age of 4 months before it is possible to tell if they are roosters before they are brought into a residential setting.
- Hens are social animals and usually thrive better in groups. They are generally kept for limited egg production more than as domestic pets.
- Hens will lay 1-2 eggs typically per day under ideal conditions and will generally continue to lay eggs for 5-7 years. The typical lifespan of a hen is species dependent. Most heritage breeds can live up to and beyond 8 years.
- Hens will require a means of shelter from the elements in a shed or coop as well as a protected / fenced compound (run) for exercise and light.
- Hens require a supply of clean water and feed and can produce up to 10 lbs. of manure per month per bird.
- Hens may require occasional veterinarian care similar to household pets in the event of sickness or disease.

#### **4. ANALYSIS:**

##### **4.1 PROVINCIAL POLICY FRAMEWORK**

Pursuant to Section 3(5) of the Planning Act, a decision of the Council of a municipality, in respect of the exercise of any authority that affects a planning matter, shall be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and shall conform with, or not conflict with, the Provincial Plans that are in effect.

This is relevant to the extent that any initiative by the Town to regulate urban hens involves the exercise of any planning authority such as changes to existing zoning by-law provisions.

##### **4.1.1 PROVINCIAL POLICY STATEMENT 2014**

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) does not contain detailed policies specifically related to urban agriculture and animal husbandry. However, the PPS does contain broader policy directions which provide some guidance and context to consider municipal planning initiatives that involve an urban agricultural matters such as urban hens. These are set out below:

Part IV: *Vision for Ontario's Land Use Planning System* specifies ..... "The wise use and management of these resources over the long term is a key provincial interest. The Province must ensure that its resources are managed in a sustainable way to conserve biodiversity, protect essential ecological processes and public health and safety, provide for the production of food and fibre, minimize environmental and social impacts, and meet its long term needs."

Section 1.7 *Long Term Economic Prosperity* specifies that long-term economic prosperity should be supported by: ".....h: providing opportunities to support local food, and promoting the sustainability of agri-food and agri-product business by protecting agricultural resources, and minimizing land use conflicts;...."

#### 4.2 A PLACE TO GROW – GROWTH PLAN FOR THE GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE 2019 (GROWTH PLAN)

The Growth Plan does not contain detailed policies related to urban agriculture and animal husbandry. However, Section 1.2.1 Guiding Principles states that the policies of this Plan regarding how land is developed, resources are managed and protected and public dollars are invested are based on the following principle:

"Support and enhance the long-term viability and productivity of agriculture by protecting prime agricultural areas and the agri-food network".

Furthermore, Section 4.2.6 *Agriculture System* specifies that:

"7. Municipalities are encouraged to implement regional agri-food strategies and other approaches to sustain and enhance the Agricultural System and the long-term economic prosperity and viability of the agri-food sector, including the maintenance and improvement of the agri-food network by: a) providing opportunities to support access to healthy, local, and affordable food, urban and near-urban agriculture, food system planning and promoting the sustainability of agricultural, agri-food, and agri-product businesses while protecting agricultural resources and minimizing land use conflicts; ....."

#### 4.3 ONTARIO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS (OMAFRA)

Specific guidelines on the separation of livestock facilities (barns, stables, chicken coups, manure piles etc.) are provided in the OMAFRA document *Minimum Separation Distance (MDS)* guidelines. The MDS guidelines were primarily introduced to assist in the reduction of land use conflicts between livestock facilities and sensitive new development (e.g. residences, schools, places of assembly etc.).

In general terms, the MDS does not apply to livestock facilities occupying an area of less than 10 sq. m (108 sq. ft.) Despite that the MDS is not applicable in settlement areas.

OMAFRA has produced a number of resources related to urban agriculture, food safety, animal health, animal welfare and biosecurity. (Refer to Attachment 3)

As it relates to raising urban hens, OMAFRA recognizes that there are a unique set of challenges for municipalities that should be considered in the permissibility of keeping livestock and poultry in urban areas. These include:

**Animal Health and Public Health:** Livestock and poultry can be sources of diseases that are passed to humans. These animals require health management and veterinary care, to minimize the occurrence and spread of diseases.

**Animal Care:** Basic hygiene is essential when caring for animals, who also need proper shelter, food, water and adequate space to stay healthy. Manure must be disposed of in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. But even with the best care, some animals will die, which means there have to be plans for disposing of dead animals.

**Predators:** Livestock and poultry can attract predators such as coyotes, rats, skunks, raccoons, foxes and neighbourhood pets.

**Food Safety:** Municipal councils should also be aware of provincial and federal regulations regarding food safety. For example, regulations under the *Food Safety and Quality Act, 2001* govern the sale of ungraded eggs, while people are allowed to keep a limited number of chickens for egg production for their own consumption.

The sale of ungraded eggs is also subject to Section 19 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* which allows Public Health Inspectors to seize any food that constitutes a "health hazard".

All meat and poultry sold in Ontario must be inspected by a meat inspector. Urban producers may sell meat only if the animals or birds are slaughtered at a licensed abattoir. In such cases, producers would have to comply with federal animal transportation requirements.

#### 4.4 YORK REGION OFFICIAL PLAN 2010 (YROP)

Section 6.3.17 of the YROP addresses the Region's policies concerning the agriculture industry, farming and local food production which is to

“To support York Region’s agricultural industry and assist the industry in responding to changing conditions and markets, by considering:

- a. supporting local farm organizations in promoting the availability of local food and value-added products, including the development of local farm markets and farm-gate sales, subject to public health and safety standards;
- b. promoting a variety of agricultural products originating within the Region and where possible assisting local farmers in diversifying agricultural products;
- c. encouraging continuing agriculture on lands adjacent to all communities in York Region as a source of local food;
- d. encouraging the provision of community gardens and other urban agriculture practices, **but not including animal agriculture in new and existing communities**; (emphasis added)
- e. developing local food-sourcing policies for Regional facilities and encouraging other public sector agencies within the Region to adopt similar policies; and,
- f. encouraging dialogue with other levels of government, local farmers and farm organizations in York Region to ensure that the agricultural industry remains competitive, sustainable and viable in the long term.

Section 6.3.19 of the YROP also encourages the Province to proactively assess, encourage and promote policies and programs directed to the production, distribution and use of local food by residents.

While the YROP does not encourage animal agriculture in new and existing communities, it does not prohibit it. The YROP was approved in 2010 and reflects social, economic and environmental trends that precede that date. Limited urban farming including urban hens is a relatively recent phenomenon that was not likely contemplated by the YROP. Despite this, at an appropriate scale, the keeping of hens in new and existing communities urban hens does not challenge or impair the fundamental principles in the YROP which encourage complete, healthy and sustainable communities.

#### 4.5 YORK REGION PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The York Region Public Health Department has indicated that the potential impact on the public’s health of keeping chickens are similar to the health impacts of keeping other animals allowed by by-laws, such as dogs and cats. The health risks associated with backyard chickens appears to be low if appropriate measures are taken. The

potential for disease transmission (particularly salmonella and influenza) and nuisance factors such as noise, odor and pests can be mitigated through adherence to appropriate practices including personal hygiene, disposal of waste and carcasses, property maintenance, secure structures limits to the number of animals.

Attachment No. 4 is an e-mail from York Region Public Health including attached and references reference materials, except those from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, which are otherwise included in Attachment No. 3.

#### 4.6 TOWN OF GEORGINA OFFICIAL PLAN

Section 2 of the Town of Georgina Official Plan - *Vision, Guiding Principles and Objectives* sets out the overall vision for the development of the Community.

2.2.11 *Healthy and Complete Communities Guiding Principle* is to improve the health and well-being of the people who live, work and play in Georgina, through the development of strong, livable safe, accessible and resilient urban and rural communities and the provision of a variety of opportunities for housing, employment, learning, social activity, culture and recreation, and active transportation while protecting the natural environment.

A supporting objective to this principle is given in Section 2.2.12.10 which reads as follows:

“2.2.12.10 To support healthy lifestyles and sustainable communities by encouraging low-carbon, “zero-waste neighborhoods, local food and local goods production and consumption, active transportation and the ability to live, work and play in one community.”

The ability to keep and raise a limited number of hens in urban residential areas for egg production can be seen as consistent with this objective.

#### 4.7 ZONING BY-LAW 500

Section 5.24 of Zoning By-law 500 specifies that..... “No person shall use any land, building or structure in a Transitional or Rural zone on a lot of less than 0.4 hectares, or in a Residential zone, for the keeping or raising of animals, poultry, reptiles or insects except as allowed by specific municipal by-laws which set forth regulations of keeping of the same.”

The effect of this by-law provision is to restrict the keeping or raising of poultry in settlement areas save and except a few areas that retain a Rural (RU) zoning and where lot sizes permit. It further places the emphasis for the regulations concerning

the keeping of poultry in the Town's Animal Licensing By-law which is passed under the Municipal Act.

#### 4.8 TOWN OF GEORGINA ANIMAL LICENSING BY-LAW 2003-0072

The Town of Georgina Animal Licensing By-law 2003-0072 (Refer to Attachment 5.) specifies that no person other than a veterinarian shall keep or permit to be kept any of a variety of specified animals including all Galliformes (such as Grouse, Pheasants, Turkeys and Common Poultry) except on a Rural zoned property. There are no regulations concerning the keeping of poultry on a Rural zoned property or the requirement to obtain a specific license from the Town for this purpose. The effect of By-law 2003-0072 is to prohibit the keeping of poultry on most properties within settlement areas in Georgina (i.e. Keswick, Sutton – Jackson's Point, Virginia, Pefferlaw).

By-law Enforcement staff respond to and administer approximately 2-4 complaints concerning urban hens in violation of By-law 2003-0072 on an annual basis.

#### 4.9 EXPERIENCE IN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

A survey of the practices of municipalities was conducted to better understand the manner in which urban hens have been addressed. Attachment 6 contains a set of information sheets prepared for eleven comparable municipalities where the issue of urban hens has recently been addressed and administered in some fashion. The following is a summary of the key findings of this review of municipal regulations:

- Regulations for urban hens are contained in either of the Zoning By-law or a Municipal Act Licensing By-law or both. Most often regulations are found exclusively in an Animal Licensing By-law passed under the Municipal Act.
- Several municipalities have embarked on pilot programs for a specified duration and number of properties to assess the effectiveness of regulations to ensure land use compatibility.
- Municipalities tend to limit the extent of hen keeping by an absolute number. Most limit that to 4 hens. Roosters are generally banned.
- Regulations often prescribe minimum areas devoted to a hen coop and hen run based upon an area per animal e.g. 0.37 sq. m. (4 sq. ft.) and 0.92 sq. m (10 sq. ft.) respectively. Often absolute size restrictions are placed on the backyard area devoted to hen coops and runs and they are only permitted in rear yards.



- Regulations concerning the size and location of coops and runs tend to approximate or directly follow the regulations for accessory buildings on residential lots.
- Some municipalities have prescribed separation distances from certain adjacent land uses (e.g. schools, churches and, businesses).
- Notification to and consent from adjacent property owners is a requirement for permission to keep urban hens in some instances.
- Minimum lot areas / lot frontages are specified in some instances.
- Sale of eggs or slaughter of chickens is prohibited.
- Guideline / educational documents are often produced by municipalities to educate and inform residents about how to raise and manage urban hens (Refer to Attachment 7).

#### 4.10 URBAN HENS: POTENTIAL BENEFITS AND ISSUES

There are a number of potential benefits and issues associated with the raising of hens in residential areas. Some of these are outlined below.

##### 4.10.1 Potential Benefits of Urban Hens

###### Access to Locally Grown Food

Permitting limited keeping of hens in residential areas provides access to locally grown food in a manner that can be controlled and managed by the resident / consumer. A hen will lay an average of one egg per day. The eggs produced by backyard hens are considered by some to be more nutritional than store bought eggs produced in mass production facilities.

###### Educational / Social benefits

Hen raising in a residential setting provides certain intrinsic educational benefits concerning the means of food production.

###### Production of Natural fertilizer

Hen raising in a residential setting provides a source of natural fertilizer and facilitates effective nutrient management for lawns and gardens although some sources suggest that this is not an appropriate practice due to the nature of hen manure.

#### 4.10.2 POTENTIAL ISSUES RELATED TO URBAN HENS

##### Land Use Compatibility

Hen raising in residential areas, if not managed correctly, can lead to problems such as odor, noise, visual appearance / aesthetics real or perceived.

##### Licensing Administration and Enforcement of Complaints

Permitting hens in residential areas under any system of licensing will introduce the need to administer and enforce by-laws and regulations and respond to complaints.

##### Health of Livestock

Hens can require care veterinary care and vaccination to prevent against disease and pests adding significant costs.

##### Disease Transmission

Poultry have been linked to certain types of disease transmission, particularly in situations where hen coops are not properly maintained and the health of the animals is not properly addressed.

##### Predators and Pests

Hens can attract certain predators and pests if they are not properly managed on property (i.e. foxes and wolves as predators, rats and mice as pests primarily in relation to chicken feed).

#### 4.11 PERMITTING URBAN HENS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS - OPTIONS

Going forward, there are a number of options that could be considered for addressing the petition and the emerging issue of urban hens in Georgina. A number of these are presented below:

##### **Option 1 - Do Nothing**

Under this option, no action would be taken and the petition would be received and filed. Licensing By-law 2003-0072 would not be amended to address the permissibility of urban hens in residential areas. Raising poultry of any type in areas other than Rural (RU) zones would not be permitted. Municipal Law Enforcement staff would continue to respond to complaints pursuant to the current regulations.

**Option 2. – Pilot Program**

Under this option, a pilot program would be initiated that could be authorized by a new by-law passed under the Municipal Act or through amendments to the existing Animal Licensing By-law 2003-0072. The program could run for a defined period of time (e.g. 24-36 months) for a limited number of residents and be based on specific criteria and standards. The program could be designed such that a restricted number of licenses for hens could be issued to ensure proper monitoring and management of the program. Following a program assessment, Licensing By-law 2003-0072 could be adjusted based upon the experience gained in the pilot program or the program could be abandoned all together.

**Option 3 – Proceed immediately - Amend Licensing By-law 2003-0072**

Under this option amendments would be advanced to allow for the raising of urban hens subject to a number of criteria and regulations as set out in the By-law.

**5. RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This report addresses GOAL 1: “Grow Our Economy” and GOAL 2: “Promote a High Quality of Life” of the Town’s Strategic Plan. It supports the direction to make the decision making authority on land use planning matters more accountable, effective and efficient therefore strengthening our economy and increasing the quality of life for our residents.

**6. FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

Not Applicable

**7. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS:**

Melody Bertolini, the originator of the petition was notified of this report as were other individuals currently on record with the Town as having an interest in the matter. There are no statutory notification or consultation requirements associated with this report.

Public consultation is fundamental to the development of any program addressing the permissibility of backyard hens in residential areas. If Council adopts the recommendations contained in this report, Staff will embark upon a public consultation program which will include hosting a public information centre, providing information of the Town’s web site and seeking input through an on-line questionnaire.

If Council adopts the recommendation in this report a public consultation process will commence in the early fall. A report summarizing the results of the public consultation program with recommendations on this matter would be targeted for Council prior to year-end 2019. Attachment No. 8 outlines draft urban hen regulations for discussion purposes that would be considered as part of the consultation process.

**8. CONCLUSION:**

This report responds to the direction of Council to review and report back on the petition submitted by Marina Bertolini concerning a relaxation of existing regulations to allow for the keeping hens in residential areas. Various municipalities in Ontario have either allowed a limited number of hens in residential areas subject to regulations or are in a pilot program to assess this initiative.

This report presents three options for addressing this matter in Georgina. Before moving forward, this report recommends that the Town undertake a public consultation program to better understand the issues and attitudes of residents concerning a relaxation of existing regulations to permit a limited number of hens to be kept in residential areas.

Prepared by:



Alan Drozd, MCIP, RPP,  
Supervisor of Development Planning



*For:* Shayne Connors, MSc  
Planner I

Reviewed by:



Velvet Ross, MCIP, RPP  
Manager of Planning



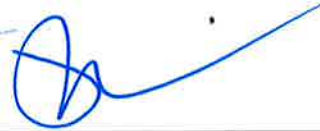
Mike Hutchinson  
Acting Manager, By-law Enforcement

Recommended by:

Approved by:



Harold Lenters, M.Sc.PI, MCIP, RPP  
Director of Development Services



Dave Reddon,  
Chief Administrative Officer

24-July 2019

- Attachment 1- Petition received August 10, 2016 – Urban Hens
- Attachment 2- Council Resolution August 10, 2016
- Attachment 3- Web Documents from OMAFRA – Urban Agriculture
- Attachment 4- York Region Public Health – e-mail and attachments
- Attachment 5- By-law 2003-0072
- Attachment 6- Urban Hens – Jurisdictional Scan
- Attachment 7- Township of Clearwater – Information Sheet
- Attachment 8- Draft Urban Hen Regulations for Discussion Purposes

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<sup>i</sup> Various Sources Include:

“How to Raise Chickens” Jan 10, 2012 [www.backyardchickens.com](http://www.backyardchickens.com)

“Beginner’s Guide to Raising Backyard Chickens” May 25, 2019  
[www.thhappychickencoop.com](http://www.thhappychickencoop.com)

Urban Agriculture Business Information Bundle / Urban Agriculture: Livestock and Poultry –  
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

# Clocks Office<sup>2</sup>;

Good evening Town of Georgina Council, Deputy mayor, supporters, and of course Mayor Margaret Quirk

I hereby stand before you to propose a very forward moving, progressive, natural and sustainable request. Respectfully, I address you tonight for the proper kept and yard confined backyard hen be deemed a household pet, therefore be permitted to be kept in a non rural setting within town limits and for the sole purpose of providing our families with hormone, pesticide and antibiotic free fresh eggs!

My beautiful family has lived in Georgina for more than 20 years, we chose to live in this outstanding community, to serve it, raise our family in it, provide a level of honour and educate our children right here in Georgina. We reside on the urban south end of Keswick, close to our gorgeous lakefront land on an oversized 3/4 acre, doubled lotted corner home, where we are blessed and proud to called this town, home!

I have 3 neighbouring houses on our fully fenced lot. Neither owner behind me even knew we had chickens at the time of our complaint only 23 days ago. My neighbour of almost 10 years and likely the only neighbour who can see my yard through our connecting gate, is here today to stand by my side as i ask for the towns help and consideration. My complainant from the municipal officer did not come from a direct neighbouring home. I was not told what type of complaint came in nor was I given an extension when asked nor was I explained anything more than just a 30 days removal time frame. Possibly and in my eyes should be null and voided. My chickens do not and will not cause a nuisance or be a burden.

My proposal comes with the idea to implement strict guidelines to permit and apply to own backyard chickens. A new bylaw or amending the current one could possibly allow each home owner 2-5 hens regardless of their non rural zoning, it can prove to be an amazing asset to our already charming and forth coming town.

### Regulations ideas

- ~Maximum of 5 household pets per property, including hens
- ~The keeping of roosters shall be prohibited, hens can lay eggs without a rooster
- ~Used for the purpose of eggs for personal use
- ~Coop size of minimum 10ft per hen
- ~No slaughtering
- ~Coops shall only be built in back yards, not side or front
- ~Coops must be certain distances from all neighbouring dwellings
- ~Possibility of neighbours approval
- ~Coops kept in clean condition

### Benefits

- ~Better tasting eggs with high protein & nutritional value
- ~Chickens provide a reduction in the growth of weeds and insects
- ~Their manure can be used as nitrogen enriched fertilizer
- ~They provide a fun companionship
- ~Can help to lower cost of food bills
- ~Their eggs DO NOT contain pesticides, antibiotics OR hormones
- ~Are raised in better living conditions than that of a industrial and/or commercial farm
- ~Reduces amount of green bin waste, as MY chickens will eat anything!!

Hens are people loving, gentle and quiet outdoor pets

Their voices actually only reach 50-60 decibels, which is that of a light adult conversation.

### Hens DO NOT smell

10 hens actually smell less than a dog creating only 2/3 of the poop of a medium sized dog.

Also, The Health dept of Canada claims NO health risks are involved with having backyard chickens. Its as easy as properly washing your hands!

In Kingston, just before their bylaw passed, the urban heritage foundation contacted 15 municipalities that allowed backyard hens. Out of those 15 ALL reported a very low # of complaints, An average 15/ year per 100,000 residents.

Newmarket is now in the midst of their second pilot project allowing ward 5 to join ward 2.  
3 hens per household, up to 20 homes per ward

Its truly amazing the amount of municipalities who have been approached with the idea, have passed the new bylaws and are accepting of the new sustainable way of living. Knowing the obvious humane alternative to factory farming, now entices Big Canadian cities to allow chickens OR disregard them unless a complaint comes in.

The Barrie public is currently against their council. As of a this past Monday a poll sits at a 69% YES and 31 at a NO, this is 500 voters out of 187000 voting with an online petition.

I handed into John Espinosa last week, 446 signatures to you on paper of supporters who not only signed my petition but went out of their way to do so! This was not canvassed, believe me when I tell you that every signature came from passionate people who truly admire and are thankful for your consideration..these are people who would love to be part of an experimental program, want to own chickens and possibly DO but just won't say!

There may be concerns and misconceptions:

Keeping chickens contained

Concerns regarding attracting predators

Cleanliness

Noise complaint

Initial cost of set up

Inside your handout are tips and ways to eliminate All concerns and Issues



Written in the newly Economic development strategy and Action plan I have read the town looks to improve town visibility and identity. Wants to support agricultural aspects within the town and of course to increase job opportunity and tourism growth. On page 2 within the executive summary, i read things such as “Leverage the economic impact of Agriculture food and Agri tourism” ”Growth of near urban agricultural activities”. without completely understanding the political aspect of this economic development plan...what I do see throughout the entire plan is a lot of familiarity with what i propose... We want to better our community, work with each other, share our roots of farming with one another and create ways to embrace the agricultural heritage. I strongly suggest Georgina jump on the band wagon and join in on the breakthrough, people pleasing choice to raise and care for our own food. Allow us to teach our young children that the food on their tables does not all come from Walmart, I mean, global environment sustainability needs to start with local initiatives such as this. In closing, I am more than thrilled with the highest level of support from so many residents and the overwhelming hand of confidence.

My chickens are with me for 6 more days, My 13 year old son Julian has experienced a small taste of added responsibility away from sports this summer...I couldn't be more proud of him...he has given his 100% attention to and 100% time to caring for our chickens has decided they be returned to their sisters in Mount Albert next week. I ask you today, please consider an extension to keep and home our pets and eliminate the task of having to get them back once council makes their right decision..thanks everyone for your time this evening!

marina  
vestolini  
9058687958

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# Allow Backyard Chickens In Georgina ON

Keeping Urban Hens on a smaller level in our Community is a healthy form of

teaching and feeding our families in a sustainable way. Managed well, Hens are quiet, clean and quite personable.

Chickens pose zero risk to our health, safety and add immense benefit...Pesticide and hormone FREE fresh eggs!

WE, the undersigned:

- Propose 2-5 Hens per household, regardless of Rural zoning (w/ maximum 5 pets total per household)
- An overlook to the By-Law 2003-0072, update Schedule A
- Propose minimum acceptance to consider Pilot Project

<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Georgina Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Tele #</u>
ALTIÑO	27011 Kennedy rd, Willowbeach	Alfino Morais	905 722 6507
DAREN	27011 Kennedy rd, willowbeach	[Signature]	905 252 9786
Idalia Morais	27011 Kennedy Rd	[Signature]	905 722 3200
COR. LOSR. PONCE S	38 Easy St. Pefferlaw	[Signature]	289-423 6127
[Signature]	27021 Kennedy W. Willowbeach	[Signature]	289 716 0120
LAURIE CLAIRMONT	"	[Signature]	"
Robyn Clairmont	"	[Signature]	"
Shaylen Clairmont	"	[Signature]	"
Brandon Tarvaper	20 Silverstone West	[Signature]	289-548-8965
LONG TOR	21 Fred maison Street	[Signature]	905-252 4214
JENNIFER [Signature]	"	" [Signature]	905 252 4214
SATHI THOUCAN	332 TERRACE DR.	[Signature]	905 868 4651
Sath Nick	332 Terrace DR	[Signature]	905 868 0402
Daniela Céspedes	174 Bayview avenue	[Signature]	647-548-8965
German Quirós B	174 Bayview avenue	[Signature]	647 647 548 8965
TRACY TOR	127 Biscayne Blvd	[Signature]	905 982 0956
Jacob DT	"	[Signature]	"
Katana Dalton	"	[Signature]	"
Neal Dalton	127 Biscayne	[Signature]	905-984 0956
JANANHA MALUO	46 Shirley Blvd	[Signature]	"

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Marina Bertolini  
905 865 7958

### Allow Backyard Chickens In Georgina ON

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- An overlook to the By-Law 2003-0072, update Schedule A
- Propose minimum acceptance to consider Pilot Project

<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Georgina Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Tele #</u>
AMANDA CLARK	238 BAYVIEW AVE. KESWICK	AmandacClark	289-231-6263
Amanda Mc Crone	217 Elm Ave, Keswick	Amanda Mc Crone	905-989-1590
Robert Wotherspoon	322 TAMPA DR W/S	Robert Wotherspoon	416-451-4597
LYDIA WILLIAMS	322 TAMPA DR.	Lydia Williams	289-395-0282
Kyle Heacock	1 Thompson Dr	Kyle Heacock	905-716-7998 <small>Essex</small>
SONIA PLATT	1 Thompson Dr	Sonia Platt	905-853-2122
Rebecca Clark	30 Laurendale Ave, Keswick	Rebecca Clark	905-252-5661
Les Turner	238 Bayview	Les Turner	905-715-3001
BRIAN CLARK	570 THE QUEENSWAY	Brian Clark	905-476-3694
FAYE CLARK	570 THE QUEENSWAY	Faye Clark	905-476-3694
Janet Peters	5 Medina Sq	Janet Peters	905-476-4035
PEARL CLARKE	270 HOLLYWOOD DR	Pearl Clarke	905-476-4656
DARRON CLARKE	270 HOLLYWOOD DR	Darron Clarke	647-532-3594
RON CLARKE	270 HOLLYWOOD DE DELAWARE	Ron Clarke	905-476-4656
GIAH CRANE	288 ELMVIEW GARDENS	Giah Crane	905-476-5289
Toni Rogers	331 Hollywood DR	Toni Rogers	416 702 9141
JUDY KORTUS	322 TAMPA DR	Judy Kortus	905-252-8579

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Marina  
Bertolini  
9158687958

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Jesse Mailet			
Bono Lorenz	410 The Queensway		
KEVIN COOPER	153 FIRST AVE KESWICK		
Jillian Peck	50 Burnaby Dr Keswick		
Jennifer McNeil	34 CARRICK AVE.		
Carol Stewart	Annshielan		
KRIS TINNELLY	1 MIDDLE ST		
UYEN DIAS	1 MIDDLE ST		
Adam Julivel	19 Redcastle cresc		
John RICHARD	48 AILSA ST		
Kyle McVILLIE	28 Ferncroft DR		
Laura Squires	321 Walter Dr. Keswick		
Taylor Stevenson	33 Glenborough cres		
Mark Wagner	263 woodycrest		
Ricell Kingsley	319 Adelina dr		
Brett Beard	678 Lakes Dr		
JESSE WATSON	278 HILLCREST		
Kevin Gittens			
Patrick Henderson	101 Church		
Mel Baker	273 Beverley		
Dean Merritt	273 Beverley		
Tania Merritt	273 Beverley		
Jennifer Deitz	1880 Eldon Rd.		
Katie Hill	75 Sandra dr.		

(OK)

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LISA SCHURMAN	19 HIGHCASTLE AVE KESWICK	<i>Schurman</i>	(905)252-7027
Dante McClachrie	80 Alexandra Blvd	<i>McClachrie</i>	416-450-5294
NICOLE LOFTSON	10 KYLE CRES	<i>Nicole Loftson</i>	905-989-2071
Alyssa McClachrie	80 Alexander Blvd	<i>Alyssa MC</i>	9055962500
CHRISTINE FULLER	RAYNERS RD KESWICK	<i>Fuller</i>	905 476 820
Jeri-Lynn Vogan	24 Flint Cres <sup>Stouffville</sup>	<i>Vogan</i>	905 640-7467
Cathy Wattins	286 Birns Ave Newmarket	<i>Wattins</i>	905-751-4822
Jim Loftson	10 KYLE CRES	<i>Loftson</i>	905 989 2071
John Rye	Rayners Rd	<i>Rye</i>	905-476-3484
Louise Rye	Bazels Rd	<i>Rye</i>	905-476-5855
Johny Delaney	26 Nipissing RD	<i>Delaney</i>	905-476-8731
Kindsey Tait	7196 Old Shiloh Rd	<i>Kindsey Tait</i>	905-252-0531
DONNA TAIT	7196 OLD SHILOH RD	<i>Donna Tait</i>	705-437-2281
Loren Berke	40 Maple Ave	<i>Berke</i>	905-435-7819
Sadie Berke	40 Maple Ave	<i>Berke</i>	905-550-5454
D. Rae	10898 BRADON RD. BRASSERS	<i>Rae</i>	514 519 803 5947
Cathy Hasted	43 Helenna Dr.	<i>Hasted</i>	905-722-8922
Andrea Riddle	15 Laviolette Ave Ruff	<i>Riddle</i>	905-952-7840
Marko Grego	58 Carnick Ave	<i>Marko</i>	905-476-9929
Taunya Zabidski	19 West St.	<i>Zabidski</i>	905-722-9209
Rick Gill	65 Wendale	<i>Gill</i>	905-989-0975
Ashlee Hough	29 WEST PARK HTS	<i>Hough</i>	416 992 7572
Shannon Brown	2962 Old Homestead	<i>Brown</i>	905 806-5893
Tanner Brown	2962 Old Homestead	<i>Brown</i>	905 806-5893
Samuel Brown	2962 Old Homestead	<i>Brown</i>	905 806 5893

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JOHN SONDRUP	16 OTTERCOVE	[Signature]	905830 8537
Megan Blair	17 Joe Dales Dr	[Signature]	905 656 2337
Dawn Sondrup	16 OtterCove	[Signature]	265716 6885
Kyle Powell	47 Carrick Ave	[Signature]	905933
Matt Fuller	288 Fairness Rd	[Signature]	905-475-0167
Jimmy Loftson	10 Kyle Cres	[Signature]	905 989 200
Gwen Fuller	288 Fairness Rd	[Signature]	905-476-8810
Amanda Adkins	32 Garrett Dr.	[Signature]	(9) 7224376
Ala Conberg	" " "	[Signature]	" "
David Moore	40 Mackenzie Ct	[Signature]	905 470 5826
C Moore	40 Mackenzie	[Signature]	905-476-5876
Trevor Tarsott	324 Miami pr	[Signature]	905-476-7888
HARRY HOLTEN	29 West Park Hts	[Signature]	905-476-5166
Jennifer Madden	810 Mentzell Ave	[Signature]	416 9966313
MICHAEL SMITH	32 RIVER ST.	[Signature]	905-722-7763
TERRI AITCHISON	26644 PARK RD.	[Signature]	905-722-0061
Abbey Darbridge	20 Burnaby Dr	[Signature]	905-656-5752
Jessica Peters-Palfi	70 Amberview Dr.	[Signature]	905 476 0455
SINCLAIR GARNER	" " "	[Signature]	" "
Chayse Palfi	70 Amberview Dr.	[Signature]	905-252-2409
Maddy glass	50 Midema	[Signature]	405-715-0883
Catherine Rae	31 MRT	[Signature]	905-473-3311
Jamil Coffey	39 Rinaldo Rd.	[Signature]	905-391-3938
Jack Ryan	5843 Smith Blvd	[Signature]	(905) 722-6745
JR Rappaport	100 Glasgow Cir	[Signature]	289-926-1986

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Lois Woodruff	1013 Lake Dr. N	[Signature]	905-409-1416
Sara Imgrund	48 Reddenhurst cres	[Signature]	905-806-2794
Ryan Imgrund	48 Reddenhurst Cres	[Signature]	905-806-2214
Melanie Breeden	47 Joe Dales Dr.	[Signature]	289-231-8680
Allison Sanford	9 Faircrest Ave	[Signature]	905 711 7
Janet Hapley-Aco	278 Parkwood Av	[Signature]	905 252 7736
Nick Aco	"	[Signature]	"
Megan Houston	23 Faircrest Ave	[Signature]	905 967 0867
Patrick Wood	"	[Signature]	"
Gillian Houston-Fackler	"	[Signature]	"
Kim Connors	52 Ailsa Drive	[Signature]	905-476-2976
John Connors	52 Ailsa Dr.	[Signature]	905-476-2976
Natalie Tighe	40 Doon Cres	[Signature]	905 989 2220
Sarah Harrison	4 Eastbourne Pr.	[Signature]	905 476 4184
Robert Stevenson	318 Queens way	[Signature]	905-868-7877
MEGHAN CAVEEN	16 KLIMEK BLVD	[Signature]	289-264-3031
cole McLennen	325 Lake Drive North	[Signature]	416 702 3836
Mitchell McLennen	"	[Signature]	"
KEVIN MCLENNEN	"	[Signature]	"
Kayla Ayotte	8 Mackenzie ct.	[Signature]	289 338 6515
Crystal Ayotte	"	[Signature]	905 392 2691
Cotton Ayotte	"	[Signature]	"
Mike Ayotte	"	[Signature]	905 252 7985
Brooklyn Ayotte	"	[Signature]	"
Zadaya Sott	16 Dorothy Street	[Signature]	

(25)

MARINA  
BERTOLINI  
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Aaron McNeil	34 Corrick Ave, Keswick		905 392 7151
Marina Bertolini	316 Tampa Drive		905 868 7958
Isabella Speranza	357 Metro Rd N		905 868 2878
Darreen Davidson	196 Woodland Ave		
JANET MUNRO	301 Catering Rd.		905 722 2658
Heidi DiLucaano	4 Ailsa Dr.		905-476-5055
Manah Bertolini	316 Tampa Drive		905-251-5247
Corrado Luciano	331 Tampa Drive		905-476-5058
NATHAN TOLSON	349 WINNIFRED NT		
Hallett Rogers		HB	
Danielle Steiner	16 Jacksons point Ave		289 383 7729
SUEAN MUCKLESTONE	CIVIC CENTER		
Kim Hooper	339 Hollywood Drive		647-884-1290
SIOBHAN COCHRANE	305 CARL ST.		905 392 0246
Lilli Carlton	120 Amberview Dr		905 716 1026
Mary Annas	Queenville		905-476-9762
Kylie Douglas Thorburn	104 Riverglende		289-231-7568
Colleen Crever	63 Silverstone Cres.		905-251-1938
Mina Nurse	49 Shore Cres		905 251 9948
Robin Hotchkiss	262 Parkwood Ave		905 989 2565
Brian Thorburn	104 Riverglan dr.		905-955-1872
Anastasia Vassilov	16 Camrose dr.		289-231-5688
mike Parro	979 Palestine Rd		705-9341167
Katelyn Fleming	101 Lake Drive		905-952-7239
Betty Davidson	581 Lake Dr.		289-383-2607



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Justine Morin	8 Glendower Cres	<i>Justine Morin</i>	905 955 265
Matt Gall, font	84 Glendower Cres	<i>Matt Gall, font</i>	905-535-1435
Katie Beatty	21588 warden ave.	<i>Katie Beatty</i>	905 841 5907
Kylie Morin	8 Glendower Cres.	<i>Kylie Morin</i>	905-251-2067.
Jamie Beatty	2588 Warden Ave	<i>Jamie Beatty</i>	905 960 6170
Corson Beatty	"	<i>Corson Beatty</i>	"
Keven Morin	8 Glendower cres	<i>Keven Morin</i>	905 955 5264
Tieler Morin	8 Glendower	<i>Tieler Morin</i>	289 231 2593
Victoria Hansen	222 Elm Ave.	<i>Victoria Hansen</i>	905 715 5479
Drew Poulter	7 Glendower Cr.	<i>Drew Poulter</i>	905-535-0064
Sharon Poulter	7 Glendower Cr.	<i>Sharon Poulter</i>	905-535-0064
Juan Casbyatt	8 Brenner Ct.	<i>Juan Casbyatt</i>	289-380-2406
Giuseppe de Cicco	8 Brenner Ct	<i>Giuseppe de Cicco</i>	289-380-2405
Valerie de Cicco	8 Brenner Ct	<i>Valerie de Cicco</i>	289-903-0472
Jessira Bachelder	5 Brenner Ct	<i>Jessira Bachelder</i>	905-715-6738
Jon Bachelder	5 Brenner Ct	<i>Jon Bachelder</i>	" "
MIKE ATTACK	2 BRENNER CRT	<i>MIKE ATTACK</i>	416 578 8992
JACK Demerrow	12 Glendower cres	<i>JACK Demerrow</i>	905 900 0815
Elena Demerrow	12 Glendower cres	<i>Elena Demerrow</i>	" "
Shelli Wakefield	22 Grangemuir Dr	<i>Shelli Wakefield</i>	905-716-2483
Brian Wakefield	22 Grangemuir Dr	<i>Brian Wakefield</i>	905-716-3562
Janice Doucette	173 Bayview Ave	<i>Janice Doucette</i>	905-960-2772
Greg Doucette	173 Bayview Ave	<i>Greg Doucette</i>	905-535-0219
KEENAN BRENE	46 SHIRLEA BLVD	<i>KEENAN BRENE</i>	416-981-2822
Austin Croteau	184 Ashdale Rd Ac	<i>Austin Croteau</i>	905-960-2830

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NIKKI VAN HORSSEW	514 The Greenways Keswick, ON.	<i>Nikki</i>	705 607 1733
Ashleigh Phipps	107 Burnaby Dr. Keswick, ON	<i>Ashleigh</i>	9-967-4524
Liane Hughes-Guest	65 Canal St. Keswick	<i>Liane</i>	9-806-8684
Kaitlin Logan	21 Verona Cres Keswick	<i>Kaitlin</i>	905-868-5966
Nicole Logan	21 Verona Cres Keswick	<i>Nicole</i>	905-868-6293
Charlee Burroghs	11 West Street, Sutton ON	<i>Charlee</i>	289-395-0714
* Sarah Morgan	21 Lands End Sutton West	<i>Sarah Morgan</i>	416 902 4509
Lyndsey McGillivray	134 Carrick Ave Keswick	<i>Lyndsey</i>	905 955 3757
Karen Morgan	21 Lands End Sutton West	<i>Karen Morgan</i>	905 722 5398
Jen Dalaney	26 Rinaldo Rd Keswick	<i>Jen</i>	905 476 8731
Julie McClachrie	80 Alexander Blvd. Jackson Pt.	<i>J. McClachrie</i>	905 596 2500
Nancy Verde	804 Rockaway Rd Willow Beach Ont	<i>Nancy</i>	905 806 4399
Karrigan Rye	290 Rainers Road	<i>Karrigan Rye</i>	905 476 2404
Ancy Aitchison	26644 Park Road	<i>Ancy</i>	905 722 0066
Alanna Aitchison	26644 Park Road	<i>Alanna Aitchison</i>	905-722-0066
Alexandra Fuller	288 Rainers Road	<i>AF</i>	905-476-8810
WAYNE JONES	46 Boltview Cres	<i>Wayne</i>	905-722-4509
Jose Oliviera	153 Morton Ave	<i>Jose</i>	(905) 806-6350
COLLEEN RYE	290 RAINERS RD. KESWICK Ont	<i>Colleen</i>	(905) 416-3484
PHIL WATKINS	286 BIRCH AVE, N. MARKHAM	<i>Phil</i>	647-407-876
Cameron McClachrie	10 Alexander Blvd	<i>Cameron</i>	905-345-75
Ethan Rumley	FR 38 Sunbird	<i>Ethan</i>	905 960 5823
CAMDEN RYE	290 RAINERS ROAD	<i>CAMDEN</i>	905-476-3484
JON TSIVANIKOS	73 LAKE DR North	<i>J.T.</i>	905-806-7940
Suzanne Kucharchuk	15 Maple Av	<i>Suzanne</i>	289 264 6090

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Paris	31 highfield	Paris	289-928-986
X499L Graves Family	50 MEDINA	[Signature]	868 0225
CAROLE CARKOL	50 MEDINA	[Signature]	905-476-2945
Tammy Gilwood	746 Churchill	[Signature]	905 722 3406
Wm. Goddard	26 Burnie Rd.	[Signature]	905-955-4269
TENA WRIGHT	283 BAYNES RD	[Signature]	905-535-0654
ANDREW RAE	31 AMER RIGGS JR.	[Signature]	905-473-3371
Michelle Coffey	39 Rinalds Rd	[Signature]	905-856-2288
ANDREW KOLLO	85 JOHN LINK AVE	[Signature]	905-596-2582
KIM BUNN-AUER	5943 SMITH BOVD	[Signature]	905 722 6748
CHRIS BREEN	220 Churchill	[Signature]	905 605 3524
Logan Rye	290 Raynes RD	[Signature]	905-476-1884
Daisy Melbourne	89 Carrick	Daisy	647-548-5300
Gabrielle Melbourne	34 Ailsa	Daisy	905-989-1563
Kenzie Gillard	316 Interview Blvd	Kg	289-383-6115
Ma Rein	47 CARRICK AVE	MIKE POWELL	905 955 0167
Vanessa Robinson	316 lakeview	[Signature]	905 476-6972
KATY LIAPIS	25292 Valley View	[Signature]	705 959 5336
George LIAPIS	37 Laurel Bank	[Signature]	905 976 1710
Zander LIAPIS	25292 Valley View	[Signature]	905 920 1710
Shirley Lorenzoni	623 Varney Rd, Shelburne	[Signature]	905-989-2510
Carlo Lorenzoni	" "	[Signature]	" "
Marcus Lorenzoni	" "	marcus.lorenzoni	905-989-2510
Thomas Lorenzoni	" "	Thomas Lorenzoni	" "
Jack Lorenzoni	" "	[Signature]	905-989-2510

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Julian Bertolini	316 Tampa drive	JB	905-715-0971
Kim Doyley	16 Sedgemoor Dr.	K. Doyley	289-926-6646
Shellic Sedra	227 Boyers Road	Shellic	289 731 7531
Antonietta Postill	111 Jean st,	Antonietta Postill	905-722-9992
Chris Postill		Chris Postill	
Angie D'Alessandro	68 Burnaby Dr.	Angie	416-666-1846
ERIKA BERTO	440 Main St	ERIKA	647 795 8690
Vanessa Deemark	38 Evelyn Ave	Vanessa	905 686-3589
Robin Burry	262A Terrace Dr.	Robin	587-785-9251
Kristen Lacey	18 milne Lane, Queensville	K. Lacey	9-830-6242
Loise Smyth	93 Biscayne Blvd	Loise	905-251-3841
Elaine O'Brien	298 Terrace Dr.	E. O'Brien	905-476-4116
Terry Patton-Maher	68 Salzburg Cres.	Terry	905-251-6910
Megna Fort	310 curlew street	Megna Fort	405-830-3625
Stephanie Allen	21 Patchell Cres	Stephanie	647-936-3408
Kim Evandt	96 Lawdes Ave	Kim	289-264-268
Emily Green	25 Fred Mason St	Emily	289-338-2611
Paula Hughes	18 WORTLEWOOD RD	Paula	416 676 0620
Monica Carlton	120 Amberview Dr	Monica	905 806 0794
Chloe Carlton	120 Amberview Dr	Chloe Carlton	905-989-0669
Jojo DeBenedictis	1 Margaret Pl.	Jojo	416 898 4660
RON BAILEY	253-ELM	Ron Bailey	476-1797
Karen Lawson	57 Lake Dr E	K. Lawson	416-886-7961

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Crystal Kraft	29 Redcastle Cres Keswick	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-989-1803
Emma Bromley	140 Robert Wilson Cres Keswick	<i>[Signature]</i>	9-868-4073
Tammy Tinson	52 Easy Street Pefferlaw	<i>[Signature]</i>	705-437-7802
Makayla Gunn	197 Biscayne	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-715-1059
Voula Niopoulos	60 castille cres W	<i>[Signature]</i>	(416) 252-2607
Sawyer Stevenson	76 reddenhurst	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 251 0771
<del>Frank</del> Sebastiano Luciano	331 Tampy Dr.	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 476-5222
Jonathan Byrne	262 Tampy Dr	<i>[Signature]</i>	289 338 847
Carly McDowell	266 church st	<i>[Signature]</i>	289-338-2684
Christine Regan	50 amberview	<i>[Signature]</i>	905.476.4503
Phyllis Byer	2710 Kennedy Rd.	<i>[Signature]</i>	416-727-1363
Brittany Byer	87 Elizabeth street	<i>[Signature]</i>	905.960.0492
Pat Rugh	89 victoria street	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 727 6305
Linda Pauer	12 West St. Box 788 Sutton	<i>[Signature]</i>	905.722-6205
Kyla Robinson	99 West St.	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 722 9640
Heidi Chaisson	504 Catering Rd. Sutton	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-722-5138
Candace Davies	323 orchHomestead Rd Keswick	<i>[Signature]</i>	289-338-2872
Leslie Enns	39 West St Sutton	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 716 4199
Caron Ines	89 Tulip St.	<i>[Signature]</i>	647 520 8636
Heida Jones	" " " "	<i>[Signature]</i>	416-293-5671
Deb Withers	401 Lake Drupos	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 715 0715
Sue Withers	29 Colette Dr.	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 436 4630
Taylor Edwards	25672 Weir's rd	<i>[Signature]</i>	289-264-4465
Tooba Shakeel		<i>[Signature]</i>	647.833.3778
Brittany Bishop		<i>[Signature]</i>	905-806-4517

## Allow Backyard Chickens In Georgina ON

Keeping Urban Hens on a smaller level in our Community is a healthy form of teaching and feeding our families in a sustainable way. Managed well, Hens are quiet, clean and quite personable. Chickens pose zero risk to our health, safety and add immense benefit...Pesticide and hormone FREE fresh eggs! WE, the undersigned:

- ~Propose 2-5 Hens per household, regardless of Rural zoning (w/ maximum 5 pets total per household)
- ~An overlook to the By-Law 2003-0072, update Schedule A
- ~Propose minimum acceptance to consider Pilot Project

<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Georgina Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Tele #</u>
Rachael Diamond	17 Farley Circle	Rachael Diamond	905 252 2958
VALERIE PRINS	79 CATERING	Valerie Prins	905 722 6448
FRANK WAINES	7855 TOWNAC	Frank Waines	289 395 1696
MEGAN WAINES	"	Megan Waines	"
AYLA MCINTOSH WAINES	"	Ayla Waines	"
TYLER WAINES	"	Tyler Waines	"
Lindsay Spence	81 Bramsey St	Lindsay Spence	905 716 4687
Kellen Spence	"	Kellen Spence	289 231 4046
Lori Hunter	48 Glenview Ave	Lori Hunter	905-806-0469
Josanne Hunter	43 Glenview Ave	Josanne Hunter	905-251 8733
Julie Westcott	529 Lake Drive East	Julie Westcott	905-806-3841
Sydney Hill	76 " " "	Sydney Hill	889-338-8833
Kim Roberts	21151 Dalton Rd.	Kim Roberts	722-8257
Britt MacQueen	9 Roanoke Rd	Britt MacQueen	722-9517
Jody Hill	41 Prides Court	Jody Hill	596-0143
Wendy Giles	17 Prides Court	Wendy Giles	905-722-9339
Bruce Van	767 Carol Ave	Bruce Van	"
Charlie Kiddle	15 Lavoie Ave	Charlie Kiddle	289-383-7043
Sue (Hosted)	43 Kelenna Dr.	Sue	722 8922
Deegan Plati	19 High Castle	Deegan Plati	905-252-1575
Troy Aitchison	26644 Park Rd	Troy Aitchison	" "
max Jones	46 golf view cres	max Jones	905 122 2077
TYLER JAMES	34 Fontaine Dr	Tyler James	905 476 8114
CHRIS BLAIR	17 Joe Davis Dr	Chris Blair	905 656-2335

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<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Georgina Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Tele #</u>
Dominic Lorenzoni	623 Varney Rd.	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-989-2510
CENNARO OLINDO	57 KERFOOT CRES	<i>[Signature]</i>	4-629-1279
Lindsay Hughes	23 Sunnisdale Blvd	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-252-4929
Denny Hughes	23 SUNNIDALE BLVD	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-722-6995
Rob Dayling	9723 Morning Glory	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-251-5551
Karen Dayling	9723 Morning Glory	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-251-5551
Elizabeth Green	179 Church St.	<i>[Signature]</i>	289-716-8480
Julie Hickey	40 Burnaby Dr.	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-476-8696
Jennifer Paterson	21 Pride Court	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-955-1543
Sarah Bernard	1670 Metro Rd N	<i>[Signature]</i>	289-338-3932
Andrea Siutra	764 Churchill lane	<i>[Signature]</i>	647 895 5997
DAN STONE	93 NORTH ST.	<i>[Signature]</i>	722-6415
Tyler Martin	8791 morning glory rd	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 806 4135
Mackenzie Burk	" "	" "	" "
Chris MacDonald	197 Ashdale Road	<i>[Signature]</i>	9055655836
Monique Pottel	2601 de Steen St. Jackson's Point	<i>[Signature]</i>	289-264-1238
Chris Rennie	5559 Blackriver Rd	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 716 9125
Hilly Corcoran	5559 Blackriver rd	<i>[Signature]</i>	416 999 7003
Jedrick Devine	267 Woodcrest Ave	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-535-0412
Peter Wolscht	23743 McCowan Rd	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-800-1137
CAROL HUNT	5557 BLACK RIVER Rd	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-715-3774
Marie Judd	180 Deer Park Dr. Kes.	<i>[Signature]</i>	905 976 2814
Maureen Wilcox	143 Church St. Keswick	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-476-2550
BRAD GODWIN	8 Reddenhurst CRES Keswick	<i>[Signature]</i>	416-818-7137
Lucas Speicher	7 Maple Ave Sutton Ont	<i>[Signature]</i>	905-251-4283

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<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Georgina Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Tele #</u>
Laura olindo	57 Kerfoot Cres.	fabo	9-989 0949
SOFIADOLINDO	" "	SO	" "
Sarah Smith	20 Yorktown Place	Sarah Smith	905-866-4615
Paige Smith	14 Ailsa Drive	Paige Smith	289-383-3884
Mekeana Bailey	78 Carlick Road	Mekeana	289-906-1773
Mackenzie Howse	500 catering road	Mackenzie	289 383 4205
Keegan Rye	240 Rayners Road	Keegan	905-476-8484
Kathy Liapis	25292 Valleyview Dr	Kathy	905-954-5334
ROSERO BERTOLINI	316 TAMPA DR	ROSA	289-926-6761
<del>Wesley Dummer</del>	<del>12 Hawkins st</del>	<del>Wesley</del>	<del>289-926-1975</del>
LED CAZON		LED	289-926-6760
Christiane Crawford	37 Louisa St	Christiane	905-596-0226
Michael Crawford	37 Louisa St	Michael	(905) 596-0226
Anastaria Karakouso		Anastaria	416 996 1016
Mary Weig	4265 Old Homestead Rd	Mary	905-722-6767
Dan Weig	7265 Old Homestead Rd	Dan	905-722-6767
Dan Weig	251 Pine Beach Dr	Dan	905-722-6767
Misty Flynn	36 Lorne St	Misty	905-722-4569
Robert Flynn	36 Lorne St	Robert	905-722-4569
Ted Martin	207 Landlaw St	Ted	905-904-1349
Cindy Creighton	89 High St	Cindy	289 2643952
Hayleigh Schwesinger	57 Lake Drive East	Hayleigh	416-562-2451
Kendall Levenschwesinger	57 Lake Drive East	Kendall	416-467-9334
TANYA KING	12 BAMBURG ST	Tanya	905-722-6160



## Allow Backyard Chickens In Georgina ON

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<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Georgina Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Tele #</u>
Rebecca Morris	35 Elm Rd, Wake, Galeskirk UK	R Morris	07523852284
D. Lebusa	" "	"	"
Jessie Zsolt	6573 Old Skilard Rd	Jessie Zsolt	647-972-8587
Christianne Bezanson		C Bezanson	867 447 4149
Patricia Shuyton		Mary Rynard	905 868 4906
Wing Rynard		Shuyton	289-264 6995
Michelle Walker	20812 Dalbo Rd	Michelle Walker	905-960-3057
James MacDonald	192 Adale Rd	JM	
<del>Patricia</del>	267 Woodycrest Ave	Pam Devine	905-535 0412
SCOTT DANIEL	67 VERRON CR.	Scott Dan	905 715 4018
LUMAY CAMUS	5557 Black River Rd	Lumay Camus	905-806-2706
Jesse Malloy	15 Draper St	Keswick	905 476 7384
Jan Muchnick	5 Broadwin	Keswick	905-476 2614
S. MASSEY	6 Regent st.	Pefferlaw	9/722 0007
Margaret Brew	70 Alexander	J. Pozi	722 3917.
Jess Menton	58 Sunbird	Jess Menton	905 836 3126
Emma Toner	33 Fenimore	Emma Toner	289-383-3180
Sabrina Reddy	144 Gwendolyn	Sabrina Reddy	+ 289-366-2167
Chris Reddy	Gwendolyn	Chris Reddy	905 251 1999
Jake Reddy	"	JR	905 251 6985
Tyler Reddy	"	Tyler Reddy	"
Winston Reddy	"	Winston Reddy	"
Trinity Reddy	"	Trinity Reddy	"
Michelle Reddy	6 Cassida	Michelle Reddy	905 832 6760
Meghan Conell	30 Herford Cross	Meghan Conell	(289)-231-9857

Licence Agreement between the Town of Georgina, as lessor, and the Georgina Arts Council, as lessee, for use of the building known as 149 High Street, Sutton

- (9) By-law Number 2016-0075 (CON-1), being a by-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the necessary documents to complete the General Loan and Security Agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Georgina as the secured party, and the Georgina Arts Council, as the debtor
- (10) By-law Number 2016-0076 (CON-1), being a by-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the necessary documents to complete the Municipal Capital Facility Agreement between the Town of Georgina and the Georgina Arts Council in respect to the town-owned lands known as 149 High Street, Sutton
- (11) By-law Number 2016-0077 (CON-1), being a by-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the necessary documents to complete the Ten (10) year Services Agreement between the Town of Georgina and the Georgina Arts Council for the provision of Arts Programming

**Carried.**

## 9. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

- (1) Melody Bertolini concerning a petition containing 446 names requesting the keeping of 2-5 backyard urban hens per household in Georgina, regardless of zoning.

**Melody Bertolini** addressed Council by advising that she would like hens to be considered pets in order for them to be allowed in non-rural zones. She proposed strict guidelines in order to allow the keeping of hens. Ms. Bertolini advised that hens are quiet, reduce green bin waste, reduce weeds, lower the cost of food bills and provide companionship.

Moved by Councillor Davison, Seconded by Councillor Fellini

### **RESOLUTION NO. C-2016-0423**

That the delegation made by Melody Bertolini presenting a petition to Council requesting the keeping of 2-5 backyard urban hens per household in Georgina, regardless of zoning, be received and referred to staff to investigate the potential for the Corporation to entertain such an initiative.

**Carried.**

Council requested that Ms. Bertolini be advised of the date this issue will return to Council.

It was suggested that staff consult with the Public Health Department as well as other agencies including the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

## 11. PUBLIC MEETINGS

### (1) STATUTORY MEETING(S) UNDER THE PLANNING ACT OR MEETINGS PERTAINING TO THE CONTINUATION OF PLANNING MATTERS

(7:30 p.m.)

- (A) Application to Amend Zoning By-law No. 500  
JOHN DARRAGH & HAYLEY HOMES CONSTRUCTION LTD.  
73 Burke St, and s/s Burke Street, Sutton  
AGENT: Michael Smith Planning Consultants

Report No. DS-2016-0054

**Mayor Quirk** explained the procedure for a public meeting at this time.

**Michael Smith**, agent for the applicant, addressed Council as follows:

- application to amend Zoning By-law 500 to permit change in zoning from Low Density Residential 'R1' to Low Density Residential 'R2' to permit two semi-detached dwellings, with two dwelling units within each dwelling for a total of four units
- Applicants each own one of two lots at 73 Burke St within urban serviced boundary and settlement area of Sutton
- original property was approved to be severed into two lots in 2015 by the Committee of Adjustment
- Each lot has frontage of approximately 20 metres/66 feet and a depth of approximately 111 metres/364 feet, 2,220 square metres or half an acre in size
- architecturally appropriate for area and comparable to neighbouring properties
- several plans and analyses have been conducted and submitted
- no natural features that would be negatively affected
- consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, conforms to Provincial Growth Plan, Provincial Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, Region of York Official Plan and Sutton and Jackson's Point Secondary Plan, conforms to the provisions of the zoning by-law 500
- only exceptions requested to the zoning by-law other than the zoning change
- small amount of servicing capacity for the proposed development is required, 5.3 persons equivalent which is available
- No agencies or departments have an objection to the proposed development
- subject to any concerns raised, requesting approval of the application

**Tolek Makarewicz**, Planner, addressed Council as follows:

- accurate overview provided by the agent of the application proposing to rezone the subject lands from Low Density Urban Residential 'R1' to Low Density Urban Residential 'R2' to permit the construction of 2 semi-detached dwellings.
- no comments received from members of the public



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS

## Urban Agriculture Business Information Bundle

### Poultry

Poultry are one of the most popular choices for urban producers who want to raise livestock. Chickens and ducks can be a source of eggs, meat or both; turkeys and gamebirds are raised for meat.

None require a lot of space (see the National Farm Animal Care Council's [Code of Practice for Chickens' Turkeys and Breeders from Hatchery to Processing Plant](http://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/Chicken%20Turkeys%20Breeders%20Code%20of%20Practice.pdf)  [<http://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/Chicken%20Turkeys%20Breeders%20Code%20of%20Practice.pdf>](http://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/Chicken%20Turkeys%20Breeders%20Code%20of%20Practice.pdf) ). However, the right nutrition is critical for proper growth and egg production. For details, see OMAFRA's [Introduction to Poultry Nutrition](#).

If backyard poultry are permitted, be sure to follow good [biosecurity practices](#) to prevent the transmission of diseases like avian influenza. Poultry can be noisy, so if you have neighbours nearby, avoid roosters and opt for quieter species of birds. Odour and flies need to be addressed with proper manure management, while feed should be stored securely to avoid infestations of rats and mice.

Poultry are often a prey species for foxes, skunks, raccoons, cats, dogs and rats, so proper penning and housing will be required. If birds are to be kept over the winter, they will need a properly insulated building that will provide protection from the elements, enough heat to keep the birds comfortable and proper ventilation to remove the ammonia that will be generated by the manure. Visit these resources for information and check local building codes before building a poultry structure that has insulation and ventilation for our climate.

Building plans from Mississippi State Extension Service:

- [Poultry House, 25-40 Layers <http://msucares.com/pubs/plans/6187.pdf>](http://msucares.com/pubs/plans/6187.pdf)
- [Poultry and Pigeon House <http://msucares.com/pubs/plans/6232.pdf>](http://msucares.com/pubs/plans/6232.pdf)
- [Poultry House 10' x12 <http://msucares.com/pubs/plans/6248.pdf>](http://msucares.com/pubs/plans/6248.pdf)

[Backyardchickens.com <http://www.backyardchickens.com/coopdesigns.html>](http://www.backyardchickens.com/coopdesigns.html)

[Small Flock Housing Plans](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/poulsci/tech_manuals/small_flock_resources.html#housing)

[<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/poulsci/tech\\_manuals/small\\_flock\\_resources.html#housing>](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/poulsci/tech_manuals/small_flock_resources.html#housing)

On-site disposal of poultry mortalities may be problematic in urban settings. For more information, see [deadstock disposal](#).

### Associations

[Provincial Poultry Associations <http://www.agr.gc.ca/poultry-volaille/assocpro\\_eng.htm>](http://www.agr.gc.ca/poultry-volaille/assocpro_eng.htm)

### Biosecurity

OMAFRA's [Biosecurity Recommendations for Small Flock Poultry Owners](#)

OMAFRA's [Keeping Your Birds Healthy Resource Kit](#)

Canadian Food Inspection Agency's [Bird Health Basics: How to Prevent and Detect Disease in Backyard Flocks and Pet Birds <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/disemala/avflu/bacdoc/floelee.shtml>](http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/disemala/avflu/bacdoc/floelee.shtml)

### General Resources

OMAFRA's [Small Flock Poultry webpage](#)

[Backyard Poultry Magazine <http://www.backyardpoultrymag.com/>](http://www.backyardpoultrymag.com/)

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Canadian Agri-Food Research Council's [Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals: Chickens, Turkeys and Breeders](#)

<http://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/factsheets/Chicken%20Turkeys%20Breeders%20Factsheet.pdf>

Canadian Agri-Food Research Council's [Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals: Poultry Layers](#)

<http://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/factsheets/Poultry%20Layer%20Factsheet.pdf>

### **Raising Chickens**

Urban Farm Online's [Chicken Keeping](#) <http://www.urbanfarmonline.com/urban-livestock/chickens/chicken-information.aspx>

### **Raising Ducks**

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's [Managing a Small Duck Flock](#) [http://www.agr.gc.ca/poultry-volaille/pub1524\\_eng.htm](http://www.agr.gc.ca/poultry-volaille/pub1524_eng.htm)

OMAFRA's [Gamebirds](#) page

### **Raising Turkeys**

OMAFRA's [Basic Husbandry for Turkeys](#)

For more information:

Toll Free: 1-877-424-1300

E-mail: [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca)



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS

### Urban Agriculture: Livestock and Poultry

Growing your own food can be very rewarding and many people are looking at the opportunities they have right in their own backyards.

Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are already part of the urban environment for many people, but others are looking for more ways to bring the farm to the city. Some, for example, want to raise chickens in their backyards. This brings its own unique set of challenges for municipalities.

Here are some of the issues municipalities should consider before developing bylaws around keeping livestock or poultry:

**Animal Health and Public Health:** Livestock and poultry can be sources of diseases that are passed to humans. These animals require health management and veterinary care, as well as basic biosecurity measures, to minimize the occurrence and spread of diseases.

**Animal Care:** Basic hygiene is essential when caring for animals, who also need proper shelter, food, water and adequate space to stay healthy. Manure must be disposed of in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. But even with the best care, some animals will die, which means there have to be plans for disposing of dead animals.

**Predators:** Livestock and poultry can attract predators such as coyotes, rats, skunks, raccoons, foxes and neighbourhood pets.

**Food Safety:** Municipal councils should also be aware of provincial and federal regulations regarding food safety. For example, regulations under the *Food Safety and Quality Act, 2001* govern the sale of ungraded eggs.

While people are allowed to keep a limited number of chickens for egg production for their own consumption, producers can only sell their ungraded eggs for a consumer's own use (i.e. not a commercial activity). The eggs must be clean and not leaking and sold only from the producer's own premises.

The sale of ungraded eggs is also subject to Section 19 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* which allows Public Health Inspectors to seize any food that constitutes a "health hazard".

All meat and poultry sold in Ontario must be inspected by a meat inspector. Urban producers may sell meat only if the animals or birds are slaughtered at a licensed abattoir. In such cases, producers would have to comply with federal animal transportation requirements.

**Other Production Considerations:** A person is allowed to raise up to 300 broiler (meat) chickens or less than 100 layers per year on their premises. Larger commercial poultry and egg operations are subject to quota requirements under the *Farm Products Marketing Act*.

### Information on Backyard Poultry Flocks

Additional information on backyard flocks can be found by visiting the websites of the following organizations.

## **Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs**

The Ministry's website has technical information on general production and management of small flocks, as well as general information on food safety, animal health, animal welfare and biosecurity. The site also provides links to relevant legislation, including the Food Safety and Quality Act, 2001 <[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_01f20\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_01f20_e.htm)>, the Health Protection and Promotion Act <[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_90h07\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90h07_e.htm)>, the Animal Health Act, 2009 <[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_09a31\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_09a31_e.htm)> and the Farm Products Marketing Act <[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_90f09\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90f09_e.htm)>.

## **"Keeping Your Birds Healthy - Biosecurity Basics for Small Flocks"**

This initiative was developed by the University of Guelph, the Poultry Industry Council and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) to provide information and expertise to improve bird health and welfare and on-farm biosecurity. The website includes fact sheets on a wide number of topics including bird health, flock management, production, etc. Hardcopies of all resources can be ordered through the website or by calling OMAFRA's toll free Agricultural Information Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300.

## **Codes of Practice**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency <<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/trans/infrae.shtml>> and the National Farm Animal Care Council <<http://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice>> have information on nationally developed guidelines for the care and handling of livestock and poultry on their websites.

## **City of Vancouver**

The City of Vancouver, which has a bylaw allowing chickens to be kept in backyards, has extensive information, external links, and questions and answers on its website <<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/LICANDINSP/animalcontrol/chicken/index.htm>>.

## **Information on Urban Agriculture**

Two new certificate programs related to urban agriculture, the Sustainable Urban Agriculture Certificate <<https://courses.opened.uoguelph.ca/public/category/courseCategoryCertificateProfile.do?method=load&certificateId=615989>> and the Sustainable Urban Horticulture Certificate <<https://courses.opened.uoguelph.ca/public/category/courseCategoryCertificateProfile.do?method=load&certificateId=702165>> have been developed by the University of Guelph. Both of these certificate programs began September 2010.

## Alan Drozd

---

**From:** McNally, Rebecca <Rebecca.McNally@york.ca> on behalf of Kurji, Dr. Karim <Dr.Karim.Kurji@york.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 2, 2016 2:13 PM  
**To:** Michael@msplanning.ca  
**Cc:** La Marca, Joe; Young, Marion; Visser, Shereen; Davies, Donna  
**Subject:** Hen inquiry  
**Attachments:** Raising Chickens in City Backyards The Public Health Role.pdf

Hello,

Further to your inquiry, public health staff have looked into the practice of allowing chickens in residential backyards. The potential impacts on the public's health of keeping chickens are similar to the health impacts of keeping other animals allowed by bylaws, such as dogs and cats.

According to the research, the health risks associated with backyard chickens appear to be low if appropriate measures are taken. Certain issues that may be associated with chickens, including the potential for disease transmission (particularly salmonella and influenza) and nuisance factors such as noise, odour and pests, can be significantly mitigated through adherence to appropriate practices:

- Proper hygiene: e.g. hand washing and appropriate disposal of waste such as manure and carcasses.
- Premise specifications and maintenance: e.g. limiting the number of chickens in structures, and keeping structures tight to keep pests out.

Reducing hazards associated with domestic animals entails a combination of educational and regulatory strategies.

The Public Health Branch can assist municipalities with educational efforts by providing materials for residents on topics such as hand washing, proper disposal of animal waste, and food safety.

For sample regulations, you may wish to consult the City of Kingston [Back Yard Hens Regulation](#), and the City of Campbell River [Guidelines for Keeping Urban Hens](#).

For your convenience, I have attached some additional information relevant to public health and backyard chickens:

- Pollock, S.L., Stephen, C., Skuridina, N., Kosatsky, T. (2012). Raising Chickens in City Backyards: The Public Health Role. *Journal of Community Health* 37:734 -742. *(article attached)*
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs information relating to [urban agriculture](#).
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Keeping Backyard Poultry](#)
- Interior Health [Backyard Chickens in the Urban Environment](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Thank you,

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**Dr. Karim Kurji** | Medical Officer of Health, Public Health, Community and Health Services Dept

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The Regional Municipality of York | 17250 Yonge Street | Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

O: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74012 | [karim.kurji@york.ca](mailto:karim.kurji@york.ca) | [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)

*Our Values: Integrity, Commitment, Accountability, Respect, Excellence*



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# GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING URBAN HENS

## Understand City Bylaws & Relevant Legislation

**Animal Control Bylaw:** This Bylaw provides the guidelines, rules and regulations for the keeping of animals within the City of Campbell River. Available at: [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)

**Zoning Bylaw:** This Bylaw provides the land-use regulations within the City of Campbell River. Available at: [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)

**National Avian On-Farm Biosecurity Standard, Canadian Food Inspection Agency:** This is a provincial initiative that provides guidelines for the handling and keeping of poultry in Canada. It is intended to prevent disease-causing agents from entering or leaving a premise that houses poultry. Available at: [www.tinyurl.com/nk35lkw](http://www.tinyurl.com/nk35lkw)



**Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, C. 372:** This Provincial Act aims to increase protection for abused and neglected animals in British Columbia. It enhances animal welfare by requiring basic levels of care, and sets penalties for violating the act. Available at: [www.tinyurl.com/loc3vk5](http://www.tinyurl.com/loc3vk5)

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**Cost, Time and Education:** Keep in mind that both start-up costs (such as infrastructure) and ongoing costs (such as vet care, food, bedding and medicine) will be required as hens can live up to 14 years or longer. Hens require care twice a day and will also require additional time for cleaning, grooming, feeding, parasite control, etc. You will also have to arrange for someone to look after your flock if you are away or unable to care for them.



### **RESOURCES:**

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**Basic Care** - <http://tinyurl.com/q4qyapx>

**Humane Treatment** - <http://tinyurl.com/ptu2v43>

**Diet and Nutrition** - <http://tinyurl.com/qclwncu>

**SPCA Hen Factsheet** - <http://tinyurl.com/otgvbzt>

**Canadian Code of Practice** - <http://tinyurl.com/nn7o4ud>



## **More questions?**

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TEL: 250-285-5700

[www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)

# GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING URBAN HENS

## Be a Good Neighbour

**Noise Mitigation:** One of the primary concerns is that urban hens will make too much noise and disrupt the neighbourhood. To reduce the potential for noise pollution, roosters and any other type of fowl (such as ducks or peacocks) are prohibited in all areas except those zoned rural. Urban hens must be kept in their coops after sunset and before 7:00 a.m. to avoid disrupting your neighbours.

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**Odour Reduction:** It is recommended to remove all manure and wet bedding weekly and ensure that a thorough, complete cleaning and disinfecting of the coop and its furnishings is completed at least once a year. The biosecurity procedures recommended by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency must also be followed. Manure that is intended for composting or fertilizing must be kept within a fully enclosed structure and no more than three cubic feet (0.085m<sup>3</sup>) of manure can be stored at a time.

**Chickens Running at Large:** Hens must be contained to your property within their pen/coop at all times. They are not allowed to run freely in urban environments. You are liable for potential fines and impoundment costs associated with chickens that trespass onto private or public property.

**Butchering of Hens and End of Life Disposal:** Chickens cannot be slaughtered on a residential property. Hens must be delivered to a pound keeper, farm, veterinarian, abattoir or other facility with the legal ability to dispose of them.

**Reducing Predation:** It is your responsibility to ensure that your hens are protected from predators and pests by providing a secure pen and coop, monitoring their health and hygiene and keeping feed in a dry and secure location. Wildlife (such as raccoons, rats, and bears) and domesticated animals (such as dogs or cats) can pose a threat to your hens.



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Identifying Predators and Pests – <http://tinyurl.com/pzv5vex>



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**Maximum Flock Sizes:** Hen owners can keep a maximum of six chickens on properties in residential or Public Areas-1 zones provided that the placement of the pen/coop complies with property setbacks and meets the minimum size requirements. On properties that are zoned Rural 1, 2 and 3, and residential properties in the Quinsam Livestock Boundary that are 0.4 hectares (1 acre or larger), up to 10 hens are permitted per 0.4 hectares. Keep in mind that chickens are social creatures so a minimum of two is recommended.

**Ensuring Human Health:** The risk of pathogen transmission from backyard chicken keeping appears to be low and does not present a great threat to public health. Risk can be mitigated with proper hen housing as well as good hygiene when handling hens and eggs.

**Coop/Pen Placement:** The keeping of hens is treated as an ancillary use in residential zones. As such, coops/pens are required to meet the minimum setback requirements for ancillary structures as regulated in the City's Zoning Bylaw. Even if your coop is mobile, it must not be within these setbacks. As well, coops and pens must be a minimum of 3 metres from dwelling doors and windows.

**Coop/Pen Construction:** Both coops/pens and the yards that contain them must be fenced. Coops cannot be larger than 10m<sup>2</sup> in floor area and no higher than 3m. A minimum of 0.37m<sup>2</sup> in floor area and 0.92m height is required for each hen. Each hen requires its own nesting box and perch.

**Restrictions on the sale of meat and manure:** Urban hens can be kept as pets or for personal egg consumption. They are not intended to be used for commercial purposes. The small scale sale of excess eggs is acceptable provided that the guidelines for the sale of shell eggs, as set by the BC Centre for Disease Control's [\*Guideline for the Sale of Food at Temporary Food Markets\*](#), are followed.

**Manure Disposal:** A maximum of 0.085 m<sup>3</sup> (3 cubic feet) of manure can be stored on site in an enclosed container. Chicken manure cannot be disposed in the sewage, storm water or yard-waste collection systems. Small amounts of manure can be disposed of with household garbage, provided it is wrapped in a sealed plastic bag.

## RESOURCES:

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**Manure Composting** - <http://tinyurl.com/pmsnz9v>

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*Mobile chicken pens are often used to rotate chicken grazing areas.*



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# GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING URBAN HENS

## End-of-Life Disposal

The City's Animal Control Bylaw does not allow for the back-yard slaughter, burial, disposal of urban hens. Deceased hens must be properly disposed of at an appropriate facility. Carcasses that are improperly disposed can smell, attract insects and pests, harbour potentially dangerous diseases and contribute to water contamination. Burial is not considered a viable option, particularly in areas that have high water tables, unsuitable soils and dense human populations.

**Where to Dispose of Chickens:** Local facilities with the legal ability to dispose of chicken carcasses should be considered. Some farms, veterinarians and abattoirs have this ability. The 2014 rates for [Vancouver Island Animal Cremation](#) facility (Courtenay) in 2014 were general pet cremation for \$25 (under 15 lbs) or \$1.40 per pound (over 15 lbs). You may also want to bag and freeze your chicken to prevent decomposition prior to delivery.



Photo Credit: Rikki MacCuish, Sierra Club

**Garbage Collection:** Chicken carcasses are not permitted in the garbage or yard waste curbside collection. As a hen owner you are responsible for ensuring the proper disposal of your hens. You must also meet the *National Avian On-Farm Biosecurity Standard* as set by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

**Illegal dumping:** Disposing of chickens or carcasses on public or crown land could be considered illegal dumping. To report an incident, contact the Campbell River Bylaw Enforcement (250-286-5776) or the Conservation Officer Service (1-877-952-7277). You can also download the [TrashOut Mobile App](#) to record illegal dumps. In addition, the [Wildlife Act](#) mandates that any person who intentionally feeds, or leaves an attractant for dangerous wildlife be fined for their offence. A first conviction can result in a \$2,500 to \$250,000 fine or two years imprisonment. A second conviction can result in a \$5,000 to \$500,000 fine or three years imprisonment.

## Slaughtering Hens

**Your Options:** After hens have stopped laying eggs they can still be useful as family pets, back-yard pest control, natural fertilizer producers and kitchen-scrap consumers. However, if you do not want to keep hens that cannot lay eggs, you can arrange to have them slaughtered for food at a licensed abattoir.

**Local Abattoir:** According to the Ministry of Health, the closest abattoir that processes chickens is [Paradise Meadows Poultry](#) (Black Creek, BC). Its operators were contacted and confirmed that the 2014 rate was \$4 + GST per chicken.



**More questions?**

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# GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING URBAN HENS

## **Health And Welfare Concerns:**

**Veterinary Costs:** If your birds become sick take them to a veterinarian, and if the disease is communicable, report it to the local Public Health Officer. Please contact the City of Campbell River as well so that other hen owners can be notified of the potential for disease, and receive tips on how to identify infected birds.

**Reporting Abuse:** To report an animal in distress, call the toll free *Animal Cruelty Reporting Hotline* at 1-(855)- 622-7722 any time between 8:30am to 6:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am to 5:00pm on weekends. If an animal emergency occurs outside of the call line's hours of operation, contact the local RCMP detachment at (250)-286-6221.

**Filing False Reports:** Be aware, intentionally providing false or misleading information is considered an offence under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*.



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TEL: 250-286-3700  
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# GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING URBAN HENS

## Understand City Bylaws & Relevant Legislation

**Animal Control Bylaw:** This Bylaw provides the guidelines, rules and regulations for the keeping of animals within the City of Campbell River. Available at: [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)

**Zoning Bylaw:** This Bylaw provides the land-use regulations within the City of Campbell River. Available at: [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)

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250-288-3700  
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Six Winter Tips for Your Flock – <http://tinyurl.com/q3qe9wo>

Cheat Sheet for Raising Backyard Hens – <http://tinyurl.com/ol6mlak>



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## Backyard Chickens in the Urban Environment

Interior Health's Public Health sector has prepared this document to guide your council's review of the health implications of community residents raising chickens in their backyards for egg production.

This document is for informational purposes. There is evidence to be found on both the positive and negative aspects of raising backyard chickens. However, the evidence does not strongly favour any one position.

There are some potential benefits to food security by allowing backyard chickens, as well as potential disease, food safety and nuisance issues to take into consideration. Disease transmission, food safety and nuisance issues can be mitigated with proper hygiene and controls related to handling of chickens and eggs and proper maintenance of the surrounding environment.

Thus, Interior Health neither supports, nor is opposed to, allowing backyard chickens within municipal boundaries, if appropriate protocols are in place and enforced.

### ***Points for Consideration***

The following are specific items that should be considered regarding the potential benefits and risks:

- Risk for pathogen transmission (e.g. Salmonella and Campylobacter) is present, but can be mitigated with proper housing and hygiene when handling chickens and eggs.
- The risk of avian influenza development is not appreciably increased by backyard hen. Urban hen keepers should be encouraged to follow the advice of *CFIA: Bird Health Basics - How to Prevent and Detect Disease in Backyard Flocks and Pet Birds*.
- Backyard chickens present a learning experience for families and neighbours and foster an understanding of where food comes from. Children learn first-hand about food, biology, geography and community.
- Concerns related to noise, odour and fecal waste disposal can be minimized if proper practices are followed. Where properly set up, composting of chicken manure and bedding is a possibility. It should be recognized that failure to control aesthetic concerns may increase opposition to urban agriculture and lead to land use conflicts.
- Having chickens allows families to know how the hens producing the eggs have been raised, fed and treated.
- Backyard chickens allow regular, convenient access to eggs that are of higher nutritional value than non-free range eggs.

## **Protocols**

Should a municipal city council allow backyard chickens, Interior Health's Public Health sector encourages municipalities to introduce protocols as part of bylaws that permit backyard chickens. Protocols should:

- require mandatory chicken enclosures and construction standards
- limit the number of birds per household
- prohibit mixing of birds
- establish minimum feed control practices and enclosure cleaning practices
- outline safe disposal of waste (surplus eggs, feces and carcass)
- include rules to guide the appropriate keeping of chickens, including animal welfare, hygiene practices and transmission of chicken-related diseases
- establish limits on egg distribution (limit to personal use) and prohibition of sale of eggs
- prohibit home-based slaughter of chickens
- prohibit sale of chicken meat

Municipalities should also consider the implications for bylaw infrastructure related to the ongoing monitoring of the chicken bylaw (i.e. bylaw enforcement officers).

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## **For Further Information**

CFIA: Bird Health Basics - How to Prevent and Detect Disease in Backyard Flocks and Pet Birds  
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/disemala/avflu/bacdoc/floeele.shtm>

University of Maine *Poultry Facts - Tips for Egg Safety from Farm to Table For Small Poultry Flock Owners.*  
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## CDC Features

# Keeping Backyard Chickens and Other Poultry

### ALERT: Multistate Outbreaks of *Salmonella* Infections linked to Backyard Poultry

CDC and many states are investigating several outbreaks of *Salmonella* infections linked to contact with backyard poultry. These outbreaks are a reminder to always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water right after touching chickens, ducklings, and anything in their environment.

**Backyard chickens and other poultry (ducks, turkeys) can carry germs like *Salmonella*. After you touch a bird, or anything in the area where birds live and roam, wash your hands so you don't get sick!**

Owning backyard chickens and other poultry can be a great experience. However, people have gotten sick with *Salmonella* from handling poultry or items in the area where they live and roam. Even handling baby birds displayed at stores or exhibits can spread *Salmonella* infections to people.

## There Are Many Ways You Can Get *Salmonella* from Poultry

Poultry might have *Salmonella* germs in their droppings and on their bodies (feathers, feet, and beaks), even when they appear healthy and clean. The germs can get on cages, coops, feed and water dishes, hay, plants, and soil in the area where the birds live and roam. Germs also can get on the hands, shoes, and clothes of people who handle or care for poultry.



People can be infected with *Salmonella* germs when they put their hands or equipment that has been in contact with poultry, in or around their mouth. Children younger than 5 years are more likely to get sick because their immune systems are still developing, and they are more likely to put their fingers and other objects into their mouths.

People can also get sick without actually touching a bird. Germs on your hands can spread easily to other people or surfaces. That's why it's important to wash hands immediately with soap and water after touching poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam.

Sometimes, people can become so sick from a *Salmonella* infection that they have to go to the hospital. Serious *Salmonella* infections are more likely to occur in people in these groups:

- Children younger than 5 years
- Adults older than 65 years
- People with immune systems weakened from a medical condition, such as diabetes, liver or kidney disease, and cancer or its treatment

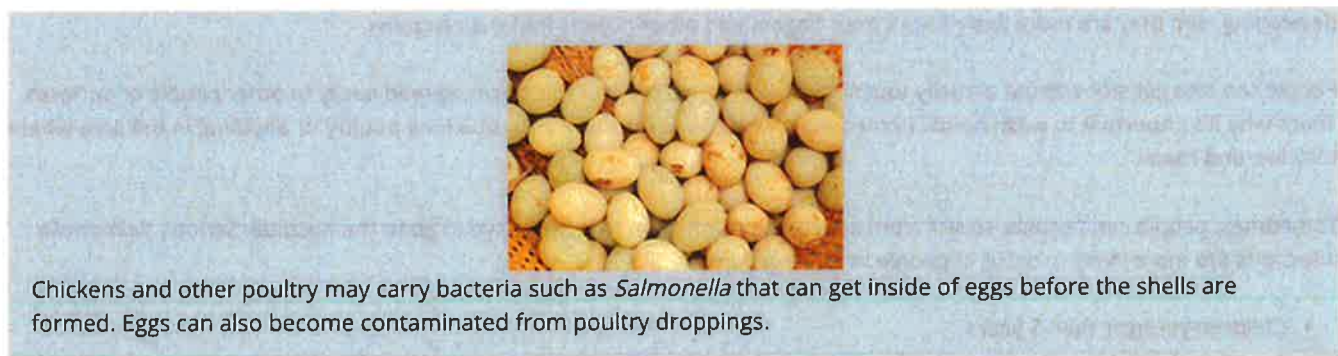


## Wash Your Hands and Take Your Chances of Getting *Salmonella*

Don't play chicken with your health. Since 2000, 76 *Salmonella* outbreaks have been linked to live poultry – 4,794

illnesses, 894 hospitalizations and 7 deaths. Don't Play Chicken with Your Health [\[887 KB\]](#) | En Español [\[886 KB\]](#)

- Always wash your hands with soap and water right after touching backyard poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam.
  - Adults should supervise handwashing by young children.
  - Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.
- Don't let backyard poultry inside the house, especially in areas where food or drink is prepared, served, or stored.
- Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while taking care of poultry and keep those shoes outside of the house.
- Children younger than 5, adults older than 65, and people with weakened immune systems shouldn't handle or touch chicks, ducklings, or other poultry.
- Poultry should not be kept in daycares, preschools, hospitals, or nursing homes.
- Don't eat or drink where poultry live or roam.
- Don't kiss backyard poultry, or snuggle them and then touch your face or mouth.
- Stay outdoors when cleaning any equipment or materials used to raise or care for poultry, such as cages or feed or water containers.
- Buy backyard poultry from hatcheries that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Poultry Improvement Plan (USDA-NPIP) U.S. voluntary *Salmonella* Monitoring Program [\[279 KB\]](#) [↗](#). This program is intended to reduce *Salmonella* in baby poultry in the hatchery, which can help prevent the spread of illness from poultry to people.



Chickens and other poultry may carry bacteria such as *Salmonella* that can get inside of eggs before the shells are formed. Eggs can also become contaminated from poultry droppings.

## Safe Handling Tips for Eggs from Backyard Poultry

Egg shells may become contaminated with *Salmonella* from poultry droppings (poop) or the area where they are laid. To keep your family healthy, follow the tips below when collecting and handling eggs from a backyard flock:

- Always wash your hands with soap and water right after handling eggs, chickens, or anything in their environment.
- Maintain a clean coop. Cleaning the coop, floor, nests and perches regularly will help to keep eggs clean.

- Collect eggs often. Eggs that spend more time in the nest can get more poop on them, or break. Throw away cracked eggs.
- Clean eggs that have dirt and debris with fine sandpaper, a brush, or cloth. Don't wash eggs, because colder water can pull *Salmonella* on the egg shell into the egg.
- Refrigerate eggs after collecting them.
- Cook eggs thoroughly so that yolks are not runny and whites are firm. Raw and undercooked eggs may contain *Salmonella* bacteria that can make you sick.
- Know local regulations for selling eggs. If you sell eggs, follow local licensing requirements.

Learn more about *Salmonella* and Eggs.

### Avian Flu



Poultry also can carry avian influenza (flu) viruses. Avian flu very rarely makes people sick. Learn more about avian flu and steps you can take to protect yourself.

## Symptoms of *Salmonella* Infection

*Salmonella* germs can make people sick with:

- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Fever
- Abdominal cramps

CDC's *Salmonella* website has more information about *Salmonella* infections and the signs of a severe infection.

Call your child's doctor if your child has:

- Diarrhea that doesn't improve after 1 day
- Vomiting lasting more than 12 hours for infants, 1 day for children younger than age 2, or 2 days for other children
- Signs of dehydration, including not urinating in 3 or more hours, dry mouth or tongue, or cries without tears
- Fever higher than 102 °F (39 °C)
- Bloody stools

Call your doctor if you have:

- Diarrhea that doesn't improve after 2 days
- Vomiting lasting more than 2 days
- Signs of dehydration, including little or no urination, excessive thirst, a very dry mouth, dizziness or lightheadedness, or very dark urine
- Fever higher than 102 °F (39 °C)
- Bloody stools

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## Rules About Owning Live Poultry Depend on Where You Live





Rules for poultry ownership vary by city, county, and state. Check with your local government to know the rules for where you live.

## More Information

- [Healthy Pets Healthy People: Backyard Poultry](#)
- [US Outbreaks Related to Poultry](#)
- [Disease Detectives at Work—Detecting \*Salmonella\* Infections from Backyard Flocks](#)
- [United States Department of Agriculture's Biosecurity for Birds \(keeping your birds healthy\)](#) 
- [Avian Influenza A Virus Infections in Humans](#)



### Graphics:

- [Healthy Families and Flocks](#)
- [Always wash your hands around poultry](#) 
- [How Infected Backyard Poultry Could Spread Bird Flu to People](#)  [555 KB]

### Podcasts:

- [CDC Kidtastics Podcast: Wash Your Hands \[0:51 seconds\]](#)
- [CDC Radio: Hand Washing PSA \[00:29 seconds\]](#)

### Selected Publications:

- [Environmental Investigation of a Multistate Salmonellosis Outbreak Linked to Live Backyard Poultry from a Mail-Order Hatchery — Michigan, 2018](#)
- [Outbreaks of Human \*Salmonella\* Infections Associated with Live Poultry, United States, 1990-2014](#)
- [Backyard Poultry Flocks and Salmonellosis: A Recurring, Yet Preventable Public Health Challenge](#) 
- [Multistate Outbreak of Human \*Salmonella\* Infections Linked to Live Poultry from a Mail-Order Hatchery in Ohio — February–October 2014](#)
- [Compendium of Measures to Prevent Disease Associated with Animals in Public Settings, 2017](#) 

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# Raising Chickens in City Backyards: The Public Health Role

S. L. Pollock · C. Stephen · N. Skuridina ·  
T. Kosatsky

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**Abstract** There is increasing interest in raising chickens in urban settings across North America. Current regulations on backyard chickens vary by jurisdiction due to concerns about perceived health threats. Proposed negative impacts on public health and community well-being include infectious diseases acquired through rearing practices or consumption of eggs, inappropriate waste management, interaction with pests and predators and nuisance factors such as noise and odour. Proposed benefits are derived largely from the human-animal bond and from feelings of autonomy over food selection. The importance or validity of claims of positive and negative effects cannot be supported by literature specific to the urban agriculture context. Public health practitioners might approach this issue

in a manner analogous to concerns over keeping domestic pets.

**Keywords** Public health practice · Zoonoses · Environmental health · Urban agriculture

## Introduction

Human history is one of close association with the animals we eat. For much of the world, there remains a close cohabitation of people and animals [1]. Urban backyard birds used to be common throughout North American cities but urban planning and development and associated municipal bylaws have pushed livestock out of the cities over the past few decades. The urban agriculture movement aims to change this. From the 100-mile diet [2] to the concept of slow food [3], there is growing interest in local food production. Urban agriculture includes growing fruits and vegetables in the backyard in addition to raising livestock for food. Multiple jurisdictions already allow raising animals in city backyards, including rabbits, goats, ducks, and geese. North American cities including Portland, Oregon, Seattle, Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia (BC) allow keeping chickens in urban backyards. However, other cities continue to debate or prohibit urban chickens due to concerns such as noise, odour and pests.

For many urban dwellers, their connection with food animals is largely restricted to meat products in the grocery store. This disconnection creates unfamiliarity with livestock rearing practices. Response to unfamiliar risks tends to be influenced by the level of potential dread or severity of the hazard [4]. The spectre of pandemic avian influenza and its association with urban poultry in Asia has elevated

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S. L. Pollock (✉)  
Canadian Field Epidemiology Program, Public Health Agency  
of Canada, 301-351 Abbott Street, Vancouver,  
BC V6B 0G6, Canada  
e-mail: sue.pollock@phac-aspc.gc.ca

C. Stephen  
Centre for Coastal Health, Nanaimo, BC, Canada

C. Stephen  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary, Calgary,  
AB, Canada

C. Stephen · N. Skuridina · T. Kosatsky  
School of Population and Public Health, University of British  
Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

T. Kosatsky  
Environmental Health Services, British Columbia Centre for  
Disease Control, Vancouver, BC, Canada

T. Kosatsky  
National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health,  
Vancouver, BC, Canada

the level of dread of urban chickens. Non-commercial poultry and backyard flocks have been viewed as points of possible vulnerability, affecting a jurisdiction's ability to detect, contain and eliminate avian influenza [5]. The historic link of commercial poultry with salmonellosis and campylobacteriosis [6] reinforces concerns that backyard birds will present a risk of enteric diseases. Further public health concerns about the attraction of pests to backyard flocks and the creation of neighbourhood conflicts has led to calls by opponents of backyard poultry that public health practitioners take a stance on the reintroduction of chickens to our cities.

Proponents of urban agriculture cite enhanced food security and safety, benefits of the human-animal bond and reduced environmental impacts as health benefits of backyard chickens. Their position often suggests that reductions in industrialization and intensification of poultry production arising from more backyard farming will in fact reduce infectious disease risks and reduce public exposure to drugs and chemicals in the food chain. Control over local food systems has been promoted as a key means to creating vibrant and sustainable communities [7]. Proponents also look to public health practitioners as arbitrators of this debate.

The objective of this paper is to examine the basis in published evidence to support or refute claims of positive or negative public health impacts from backyard poultry farming. Our goal is to reflect on this evidence to help public health practitioners develop their position on this issue and guide recommendations they may feel compelled to offer in their jurisdiction. This paper does not consider the implications of backyard poultry from an animal health and international trade perspective nor does it enter into the debate on the animal welfare issues associated with this topic.

## Methods

A comprehensive review of the scientific literature in Agricola, CAB Direct, Google Scholar, Medline, Pubmed, Scopus and Web of Science was conducted in December of 2009. Material was also found using Proquest Dissertations and Theses, Google, government and public health department websites, and library catalogues. The search strategy employed controlled terms and free text, and was adjusted according to the database being searched. Broadly, three major concepts were searched: (1) Chickens; (2) Backyards; and (3) Public Health. Bibliographies were reviewed to locate additional relevant material and to search forward using Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. References were limited to English-only; no date restrictions were employed.

## Results

### Possible Benefits of Urban Backyard Chickens

#### *Chickens as Social Determinants of Health*

Raising chickens in city backyards is not significantly different from owning a conventional companion animal such as a dog or cat. Backyard chicken owners view their birds as pets or companions and have emotional attachments to them [8]. In a survey by the US Department of Agriculture, the most common reason cited for having backyard flocks based was fun/hobby, followed by family tradition, lifestyle and food [9]. Other reasons for having birds included exposing children to food production, a general affection for birds, and insect control [9]. There is a long history of keeping chickens as pets, and according to one source they can be interesting and friendly companions [10].

Companion animals contribute to improved psychological health, including facilitating social interactions between people, and reducing feelings of loneliness, isolation and depression [11]. In an Australian survey, pet ownership was positively associated with social contact and interaction, and with perceptions of neighbourhood friendliness [12]. Pet owners scored higher on social capital and civic engagement scales [12]. Hypothetically, urban backyard chicken owners within the same neighbourhood may develop a heightened sense of community and belonging through shared discussions about their birds. Although reports of the social value of chickens are currently anecdotal, backyard chickens provide children and adults the opportunity to interact with their natural environment in the outdoors and may contribute positively to improved psychological health.

#### *Chickens as Economic Determinants of Health*

Proponents of urban agriculture cite the sense of personal control over food choices and recognize the social value of food, as opposed to seeing food as mere sustenance and a source of income [13]. However, some do claim economic benefits associated with egg production for personal use. A cost-benefit evaluation was not found in the Canadian literature to support this supposition. Eggs are the typical commodity discussed as many jurisdictions do not allow rearing of chickens for meat production. Literature on the economic advantages of small scale family poultry production is largely restricted to low and middle income country settings and cannot be generalized to the North American setting. Costs associated with keeping backyard chickens may negate any financial savings from reduced need to purchase eggs. These costs will include: purchasing

hens, chicken housing and equipment, feed, and veterinary services [14], including disposal of deceased hens. Depending on the number of hens being raised, they may not lay enough eggs to meet the needs of the household, requiring that eggs still be purchased commercially. A hen's weekly egg production volume can vary, as egg production is affected by day length, disease, breed, nutrition and stress [15]. Additionally, hens have a relatively short life span [16] and egg production will decrease as hens age [17]. Whether the initial investment in chickens and housing plus ongoing costs related to food and veterinary services will payoff in terms of egg supply requires further analysis but perceived economic benefits should not be the main reason for raising urban chickens.

#### *Chickens for Improved Nutrition and Food Security*

According to the Egg Nutrition Center which provides scientific information on issues pertaining to eggs and health, the nutritional value of eggs is affected only by the hen's feed [18]. The nutritional quality of eggs produced from urban backyard hens will, therefore, depend on the type and quality of feed chosen by the backyard flock owner. Matt et al. [19] compared the effects of organic versus conventional poultry housing systems on the biochemical composition of eggs. The mean content of cholesterol and potassium were higher in organic eggs; however, calcium levels in organic eggs were lower compared with conventional eggs [19]. In one egg testing project, eggs from hens raised on pastures were compared against US Department of Agriculture nutrient data for commercial eggs [20]. The results indicated that free-range eggs had elevated levels of vitamins, omega-3 fatty acids and beta-carotene, but these birds ranged freely or had access to fresh pasture [20]. However, these results have not yet been published in a peer reviewed journal. For some Canadian jurisdictions that allow urban backyard birds, bylaws stipulate that the birds must remain enclosed at all times, drawing into question whether they would be truly free-range birds.

Similar to the assessment of the economic benefits of family food production, most literature on food security and backyard poultry is concerned with impoverished and subsistence settings. Food security, in the sense that all people in a community have access to safe and nutritious food all the time, is not the context typically emphasized when discussing urban chickens in Canada. Backyard production tends to focus on personal consumption rather than re-distribution of production to those with food needs. Restricting production to backyards implies backyard farmers will be homeowners or renters with backyards and thus have a certain level of financial capacity. More often, food security is discussed in a personal sense and focuses

on the issue of control over food sources and personal autonomy over food choices. A community-based food security focus tends to deal more with how a local geographic area can reduce its dependence on imported foods [21]. The impacts of backyard production on personal or community food security seems, for the time being, to be a hypothesized rather than measurable effect.

#### *Chickens as Environmental Determinants of Health*

Environmental benefits of raising backyard chickens may include decrease in household waste through kitchen scrap consumption, the use of chicken manure as garden fertilizer, a decrease in garden pests and weeds, and a reduction in the carbon footprint. Chickens can eat some fresh kitchen scraps, but not to the exclusion of commercially prepared foods [14]. City-wide composting programs are becoming increasingly available and some people compost locally at home; therefore, the value of chickens in waste reduction is probably negligible, especially given that owners must also learn to properly dispose of, or compost chicken manure. Chicken fertilizers could have both environmental and economic benefits if used as a partial replacement for chemical-based fertilizers. Chicken manure can be a good fertilizer due to its high nutrient content [22]. Birds allowed to roam outdoors may eat garden pests and weeds but will also eat grass [23]. Requiring birds to remain enclosed will, however, prevent them from eating pests unless the enclosure is portable. Although local egg production may contribute to reducing the carbon footprint by reducing the transport of eggs from a distance to the consumer [24], this is still a hypothesized effect. Chicken keepers would still need to use transportation to obtain chicken supplies such as feed and would likely go to the grocery store to buy other food including additional eggs if their chickens did not produce in adequate amounts.

#### *Possible Health Risks of Urban Backyard Chickens*

##### *Infectious Diseases*

There are limited data from North American sources describing zoonotic infectious disease risks from backyard chicken flocks. Inferences from data on Asian backyard chicken flocks must be made cautiously as social and environmental conditions, and thus exposure routes and transmission, may vary greatly from North America. Similarly, risks in commercial flocks, including risks to poultry workers, may not be representative of those in backyard flocks and their keepers due to differing circumstances. Nevertheless, there exist a number of plausible routes of exposure for people to avian pathogens through backyard farming (e.g., direct contact, trauma, waste

**Table 1** Potential zoonotic diseases, poultry to human transmission

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Bacterioses
Botulism
Campylobacteriosis
Colibacillosis ( <i>E. coli</i> )
Enterocolitic yersiniosis
Erysipelas
Listeriosis
Nontuberculous mycobacteria
Salmonellosis
Streptococcosis
Tetanus
Tick-borne relapsing fever
Mycoses
Aspergillosis
Candidiasis
Dermatophytosis
Chlamydiae, Rickettsiales and Viruses
Avian influenza
Chlamydiae (zoonotic)
Gastroenteritis (rotaviral)
Newcastle disease
St. Louis encephalitis
Parasitoses
Ancylostomiasis (zoonotic)
Baylisascaris
Chagas' disease
Cryptosporidiosis
Cyclosporiasis
Dermatitis
Dicrocoeliasis
Gnathostomiasis
Leishmaniasis (visceral)
Mesocostoidiasis
Tick infestations
Toxoplasmosis
Trypanosomiasis (African)
Infections caused by free-living amoebae

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handling and egg consumption) in addition to avian pathogens that are zoonotic.

Although there are many bacterial, viral and parasitic zoonotic diseases of chickens [25], listed in Table 1, most research has surveyed flocks for pathogens of concern to other poultry and wild birds rather than zoonoses. Avian Influenza (AI) and salmonellosis are two exceptions. Avian influenza has received significant media and public attention and has been a major focus in commercial and Asian backyard chicken flocks. However, endemic diseases such as salmonellosis and campylobacteriosis pose ongoing health threats in the North American context due to

consumption of eggs, and handling of birds and their waste including manure and carcasses. The literature examining these risks has focused mostly on the commercial poultry setting rather than on backyard flocks.

There is a considerable uncertainty and variability surrounding estimates of both the prevalence of *Salmonella* and Avian influenza viruses in backyard chicken flocks and associated risks for disease transmission. Estimates of the diversity and prevalence of pathogens vary across geographic locations and levels of owner poverty. Heterogeneity in the housing conditions and sources of the birds will affect their exposure history and pathogen load. This variation can result in apparently conflicting data. For example, on the one hand large scale surveys employing viral culture as well as serology found no cases of AI in backyard flocks [26, 27]. On the other hand, chickens raised for hobby or recreational purposes in the Netherlands appeared to have been important risk factors for an epidemic of highly pathogenic AI in 2003 [28]. However, serologic tests of 24 domestic breeder flocks in the Netherlands found no antibodies against AI in the 12 birds tested from each flock while 2/24 flocks had antibodies against *Salmonella* serogroup B and 4/24 flocks had antibodies to *Salmonella* serogroup C [29]. A US seroprevalence study of 56 backyard chicken flocks in California found *Salmonella pullorum* in 4 out of 21 flocks or in 4 out of 48 birds while no AI was identified in 30 tested flocks [30]. While this information can serve as a proxy measure for likelihood of exposure for humans, predicting the likelihood of human transmission with any confidence is still challenging due largely to inadequate information on the transmission network between poultry and people in backyard settings.

The likelihood of *Salmonella* and AI transmission from chickens to humans through different modes cannot be accurately quantified. Two main routes of transmission are described in the literature for AI and *Salmonella* pathogens: fecal-oral and direct transmission [31–34]. While the potential for air-droplet transmission exists for AI in commercial poultry operations [31], it is less relevant for urban backyard chicken scenarios (limited number of birds, outdoor confinement and less potential for reaching high pathogen loads in adjacent air). Transmission occurs through direct contact with infected birds, their excretion and secretions or through contact with manure, contaminated equipment, and contaminated food/eggs (for *Salmonella* species). While AI is present in respiratory secretions, both pathogens are excreted with bird feces and represent a potential health hazard to humans due to the propensity to contaminate the adjacent environment through aerosolization [35, 36].

There are potential health risks associated with direct contact with birds and their eggs; however, the perceived

risk of AI from backyard flocks is probably overestimated due in part to media attention on this issue. Enteric infectious diseases warrant greater attention. In addition to transmission through direct contact, these diseases can also be transmitted through predators and pests and through chicken waste, which will be discussed below.

### Chicken Waste

Prompt and appropriate disposal of chicken waste, including manure and carcasses, is essential in minimizing disease risk, odour and flies. Pathogens including *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* [37] may be transmitted from chicken manure to humans through direct contact with the birds, or through contact with chicken feces on eggs. Additionally, another pet in the household, such as a dog, could hypothetically transmit disease after eating chicken feces in the backyard followed by contact with a household member. The presence of chicken manure in soil can enhance the growth of fungi such as *Hisoplasma capsulatum*. Although chickens are not susceptible to infections, humans can be affected. However, histoplasmosis is not considered to be a zoonotic disease because the reservoir is soil, not chickens [38].

Exposure to chicken manure and subsequent disease risk will depend on factors such as hygiene practices of the owner (wearing gloves while cleaning up the manure), health of the animals, the amount of waste generated (dependent on the number of birds), the susceptibility of the individual (children, immunocompromised), and husbandry practices (proper clean up and disposal). Although chicken manure can be composted and subsequently used as garden fertilizer, sufficient heat during composting (>55°C) is required to kill any pathogens in the manure [39, 40]. Prompt removal of chicken manure will also help ensure the health of the chickens [14].

Most concerns regarding environmental impacts of poultry waste revolve around concerns over water contamination from large-scale farms. However, small scale farms can also contribute to water pollution given sufficient number and density and insufficient waste management. One study described the pollution of the Yangtze Delta in China from livestock and poultry rearing and recommended pollution control by shifting away from small scale animal husbandry to large-scale livestock and poultry farming units [41]. Most urban jurisdictions restrict the number of birds allowed and urban centres are rarely situated on important water supplies, thus greatly reducing this possible risk. Prompt clean-up and disposal (or composting) of chicken manure at the household would further reduce this risk. Chicken manure can be composted if proper precautions are taken to ensure pathogens are killed before application of the manure as a fertilizer. City

planners may need to anticipate the growth and density of backyard flocks in their jurisdiction as the number of urban households that will keep backyard birds grows. It is still unlikely that the quantity of waste anticipated would lead to significant water pollution in urban jurisdictions.

### Predators and Pests

Concerns about predators including raccoons and coyotes, and pests such as ectoparasites (mites, lice, bedbugs, fleas, and soft ticks) and premise pests (darkling beetles, flies, moths, cockroaches, and rodents) have been raised with regards to the keeping of backyard chicken flocks [42]. There are insufficient data to draw conclusions about the health risks associated with pests, predators and urban backyard flocks. Veterinary extension services literature aimed at commercial poultry flocks and rodent control provides some insights into this issue [43].

Rodents will eat and contaminate poultry feed (e.g., with *Salmonella*). In addition to transmitting disease [25], rodents carry lice, fleas and mites. They may scare chicken flocks by their movements or noises, and break and eat eggs. Rodents may also physically damage the chicken coop [43]. In commercial flocks, the volume of pests, including rodents, is determined by waste, housing and flock management practices [42]. Similarly amongst urban backyard flocks, health risks from rodents will likely depend on the cleanliness and security of the chicken coop, the health of the chickens, the nature of waste management and food storage. In North America, other premise pests, such as flies and cockroaches, are more likely to be a nuisance than a disease risk.

Predators such as raccoons are found in many urban jurisdictions [44]. If the hens are safely enclosed in their coop, this will act as a deterrent. However, raccoons may then leave *Baylisascaris* (raccoon roundworm) [44] or other pathogens in the backyard, posing a risk for household members, especially children. Dogs can also act as alternative definitive hosts for *Baylisascaris* [45].

### Nuisance Factors

Some jurisdictions [46] have decided against backyard chickens on the basis of nuisance factors such as noise. A hen will squawk during egg-laying for up to 5 min; according to noise readings conducted by the city of Pleasanton, California, the noises from a squawking hen at 2 feet away registered at 63 dBA (decibels-A level) [47]. Dogs may be perceived as a greater problem in neighbourhoods where barking may exceed 100 dBA [48]. Although these vocalizations from hens may lead to conflict between backyard chicken owners and their neighbours, minimizing the allowable number of hens and

prohibiting roosters in backyards should minimize disruptions and conflict.

Odour associated with chicken manure or food scraps may also create conflicts between backyard farmers and their neighbours. Although unlikely to have adverse health effects, neighbours may find the smells associated with backyard flocks offensive, especially if there is a perception that coops are not being maintained or if the neighbour is not in favour of backyard chickens. Keeping coops clean and appropriately disposing of waste should minimize such disruptions.

## Discussion

### Risk Mitigation and Public Health Response

The public health risks and benefits from backyard poultry cannot be quantified based on current published evidence but instead must be judged on opinion and analogy. Although the decision on whether to allow urban backyard chickens should be left to individual municipalities and their constituents, public health practitioners can expect to continue to be asked for their views on this practice as the urban agriculture movement gains momentum. Public health practitioners can serve a valuable role as consultants and educators, recommending appropriate responses to risk perceptions in collaboration with animal health professionals. The public health response can include education, regulatory and economic elements. Each of these will be discussed below.

### Education

The educational messages associated with backyard poultry are not dissimilar to those for other companion animals. Linkages between primary care physicians, public health practitioners and veterinary medicine professionals will help ensure that education about disease risks from animals, including any emerging threats, is shared. Primary care physicians should routinely ask questions about animal exposures on history taking. Regulatory agencies licensing backyard flocks should provide educational materials to chicken owners on appropriate means for pest control, manure disposal and personal hygiene. In a household with children or immunocompromised individuals, healthy adults should be encouraged to clean up the feces, using gloves to avoid direct contact with the droppings and ensuring hand washing afterwards. A Missouri case-control study found that hand washing after handling ill chickens and ducklings was protective against illness [34]. Handling of birds should generally be minimized and they should not be brought into households. Young

children should be taught to wash their hands with soap and water after contact with all animals.

Whereas the principles and practices of on-farm biosecurity may be familiar to commercial farmers, hobbyists and backyard farmers may not be aware of the steps required to keep infectious diseases out of their flock and to prevent their spread. For example, to minimize the risk of avian influenza, backyard poultry should not be removed from the property or mixed with birds outside of their flock, and contact with wild birds should be prevented. Agencies such as the Canadian Food Inspection Agency have created educational material targeting backyard flock biosecurity [49] which can serve as a useful resource. Similarly, urban dwellers may be unfamiliar with food safety principles that need to be employed at the point of production like cleaning eggs prior to consumption and avoiding the consumption of broken or cracked eggs.

The urban chicken owner should be able to recognize overt illness in their birds and subsequently have access to poultry veterinary services for advice and treatment. State or provincial animal health agencies can contribute through poultry education programs for backyard flock owners and through veterinary outreach education for urban veterinarians who are not experts in poultry medicine. Online discussion boards for backyard poultry owners, with a moderator, can be one educational tool. There is also free on-line veterinary extension literature specific to raising poultry in the backyard setting, especially from United States sources. Technical expertise can also be gained from jurisdictions experienced in urban backyard chickens. Some veterinarians may be dealing with both commercial flocks and urban backyard flocks. Appropriate biosecurity measures must be encouraged to prevent transmission of disease between flocks.

Urban farmers inexperienced with animal rearing should be provided information on basic chicken husbandry principles that can mitigate public health concerns. For example, high quality food will act to keep hens healthy and produce eggs less likely to crack. Extra bedding in the chicken nest can prevent eggs from cracking or breaking. Dusting boxes with diatomaceous earth can be used to prevent pests such as red mites, which may end up in the household. Waste management strategies for the public can be guided by agriculture or veterinarian extension materials that can be provided at the point of licensing. Chickens produce most of their feces at night while roosting which makes clean up easier, and on average generate four ounces of feces per bird per day which is significantly less than a dog or cat. Coops should be designed to enable easy removal of chicken manure. Appropriate waste management practices must be undertaken to ensure proper handling of chicken manure and carcasses and to avoid odour and flies [16]. If chicken manure is to be composted, it

must be done safely and at recommended temperatures [50]. An understanding of rodent behaviour, including feeding patterns, is critical to minimizing their impact on the chickens. A properly constructed coop and food storage area ensures that rodents and other predators cannot enter. Removing loose food from the coop at night and keeping the general area clean will also help to discourage rodents [51].

### Regulation

Regulation is important in disease prevention, minimizing nuisance factors, and in ensuring animal welfare. In hopes of addressing these issues, some jurisdictions have implemented the following regulations: (1) licensing of birds, (2) prohibiting chicks and roosters, (3) limiting the number of hens allowed, and (4) providing specifications on coop construction, waste management and food storage. Requiring the registration of backyard flocks, as is the case in Vancouver, BC [52], may provide opportunities for risk management. First, it will allow a single point of contact with birds owners at which educational material can be provided. Second, registration will enable trace-back to flock owners should an event occur, such as incursion of a highly pathogenic form of avian influenza virus, requiring that rapid contact be made with backyard poultry owners. Third, it would allow city planners to avoid high density pockets of birds thereby reducing nuisance and waste management concerns. Prohibiting chicks will decrease the risks of *Salmonella* as many chicks carry *Salmonella* in their feces, and children are more likely to have close contact with chicks [53]. Banning chicks will also minimize the abandonment of hens once they grow up, and will ensure that there are no unexpected roosters in the flock once the chicks mature. Due to concerns about noise in many jurisdictions, roosters should not be allowed. Finally, regulations regarding coop construction, waste management and food storage will reinforce education aimed at minimizing nuisance factors and preventing disease and promoting health in humans and chickens.

### Economics

Companion animal care and ownership is legislatively a private sector concern. Investment in animal health typically is restricted either to settings where the animals produce significant economic values or present costly public health risks. Economic incentives for flock owners including free licensing of birds could help ensure that birds get properly registered and cared for. However, it is not clear if such public investment would result in further risk reduction or if backyard poultry present higher risks or benefits than other companion animals thus requiring

public investment into their care. Due to potential lack of poultry veterinary expertise in urban settings, one solution may be to recruit poultry veterinarians to collaborate with public health practitioners in offering a regular online web forum where chicken owners can request advice and information on bird and human health issues.

To discourage home slaughter of birds and inappropriate waste management, there should be cost-effective means of disposing of dead or sick birds. Vancouver, BC has proposed a shelter for unwanted or abandoned birds [52].

### Surveillance

All household pets come with potential risks to human health. However, existing surveillance infrastructure for pets in general and chickens specifically are not conducive to ongoing monitoring. Poultry surveillance is focused on commercial birds and requires laboratory and veterinary support. Attributing cases of human illness to ubiquitous pathogens such as *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* from backyard chicken flocks will require that diagnostic and field investigative capacity be supplemented in most jurisdictions. Infectious diseases in humans attributable to companion animals are likely under-reported due to patients not consulting their physicians, lack of awareness amongst primary care physicians of disease transmission routes, and the absence of formalized surveillance systems. In jurisdictions allowing backyard agriculture, public health workers should be aware of this potential source of pathogen when investigating relevant disease outbreaks. Similarly, pest control companies could be asked to amend their call records to include a field about whether backyard chickens were present when they attended a household for pest control.

### Evaluation

Public health practitioners can provide expertise in designing and conducting an evaluation of urban backyard programs. Elements of an evaluation could include the number of households keeping birds, reasons for keeping birds, any health events in either humans or birds over a defined time period, calls made to inspectors, costs to owners and the municipality, complaints by neighbours, and calls to pest control companies from urban backyard poultry owners. The mandatory registration program would allow for access to all backyard poultry owners.

### Conclusions

There are limited validated data on the risks and benefits of urban backyard chicken flocks in North America and



Europe. It is not possible to make quantitative estimates of health risks and benefits. Analogies with commercial and Asian flocks should be drawn cautiously as husbandry skills, the number of chickens, amount and management of waste, and utilization of veterinary services will be different.

Overall, the risk of pathogen transmission given backyard chicken keeping appears to be low and does not present a greater threat to the public's health compared with keeping other animals allowed by similar bylaws such as dogs and cats. Public adherence to proper hygiene and animal husbandry will significantly mitigate the risk of any disease acquisition from pathogens commonly found in chickens. Proper care and maintenance of flocks will help to minimize nuisance factors. Education and regulatory strategies should be utilized to avoid or mitigate risks.

Public health professionals can guide decision-making by acting as consultants in collaboration with animal health professionals. Provincial and state animal health agencies can contribute through veterinary outreach education to local veterinarians and through educational programs to backyard poultry owners. The collaboration of animal and public health professionals will promote the most tangible benefits derived from the human-animal bond and choice in safe food products.

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**Bylaw bl-2003-0072**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA  
IN THE  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

## BY-LAW NUMBER 2003-0072

BEING A BY-LAW TO REGULATE AND PROHIBIT THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS OTHER THAN DOGS

WHEREAS the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, authorizes a municipality to pass by-laws for purposes related to the health, safety and well-being of the inhabitants of the municipality.

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

## 1. DEFINITIONS:

In this by-law,

- (a) "animal" means any member of the animal kingdom, excluding domestic dogs, other than a human;
- (b) "veterinarian" means a veterinarian currently licensed by the Ontario Veterinarian Association.

## 2. REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS:

- (a) No person, other than a veterinarian, shall keep or permit to be kept, any animals listed in SCHEDULE 'A' other than the exceptions given.
- (b) Except on Rural Zoned Property, no person, other than a veterinarian or pet shop, shall keep or permit to be kept, more than three (3) animals not prohibited in SCHEDULE "A" except the offspring up to twelve (12) weeks from date of birth.

## 3. ENFORCEMENT:

The provisions of this by-law may be enforced by a Police Officer or a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer.

## 4. PENALTY:

Every person who contravenes any of the provisions of this by-law, upon conviction, is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine pursuant to the Provincial Offences Act as amended.

## 5. REPEALS:

By-law 82-12 (PWE-1) is hereby repealed.

READ a first, second and third time and passed on this 9th day of June, 2003.

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Attachment 5  
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Jeffrey Holec, Mayor

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Roland Chenier, Town Clerk

SCHEDULE 'A'

(Examples of prohibited animals of a particular group are given in brackets and other than the exceptions given shall not be construed as limiting the generality of the group)

1. All ARACHNIDS (such as Scorpions & Tarantulas)
2. All BATS
3. All CANIDS except the domestic dog (such as Wolves & Foxes)

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4. All CROCODILIANS (such as Alligators, Crocodiles & Caimans)
5. All EDENTATES (such as Anteaters, Sloths & Armadillos)
6. All ELEPHANTS
7. All FELIDS except the domestic cat (such as Lions & Tigers)
8. All HYENAS
9. All MARSUPIALS (such as Kangaroos, Wallabies & Opossums)
10. All MUSTELIDS except the domestic ferret (such as Skunks, Martens & Weasels)
11. All non-human PRIMATES (such as Gorillas, Lemurs & Monkeys)
12. All PINNIPEDS (such as Seals & Walruses)
13. All PROCYONIDS (such as Raccoons, Coatis & Cacomistles)
14. All SCIURIDAE (such as Prairie Dogs, Giant & Flying Squirrels)
15. All SNAKES of the families PYTHONIDAE & BOIDAE
16. All URSIDS (Bears)
17. All VENOMOUS REPTILES (such as Cobras, Rattle Snakes & Gila Monsters)
18. All VIVERRIDS (such as Mongooses, Civets & Genets)

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Attachment 5  
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## URBAN HEN JURISDICTIONAL SCAN

### **1- Town of East Gwillimbury**

#### Status

New comprehensive Zoning By-law - In force and effect since 2018.

#### Background

The Town of East Gwillimbury enacted By-law Number 2018-043 to pass a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law, which contains provisions related to Residential Backyard Hens (Section 4.26).

#### Applications/Permits Required

None.

#### Zoning By-law Provisions

Hens shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

- Hens shall be permitted in any Residential Zone on lots with a minimum area of 1.0 acre;
- Hens must only be kept in the rear yard; and,
- Roosters are not permitted.

Hen coops and hen runs are considered to be an accessory building and shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

<b>Maximum Lot Coverage</b>	10%
<b>Minimum Front Yard Setback</b>	Cannot be located closer than the main dwelling
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	1.0 metre
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	1.0 metre
<b>Maximum Height</b>	4.5 metres
<b>Other Provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No more than a total of three (3) detached accessory buildings are permitted on any lot in a Residential Zone; and,</li><li>• An accessory building cannot be located within:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ an easement;</li><li>○ any daylighting or sight triangle; and,</li><li>○ 1.0 metre from any building</li></ul></li></ul>

#### Other Information:

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*

## 2- Town of Newmarket

### Status

Animal Control By-law Amendment – In force and effect since 2017.

### Background

- On February 8, 2016, Newmarket Council endorsed a 12 month pilot project in Ward 2 for up to five (5) residential properties, effective March 1, 2016.
- On April 25, 2016, Council expanded the pilot project to include Ward 5.
  - A total of two (2) residents in Ward 5 proceeded with the pilot project.
- On June 6, 2017, Council amended the Animal Control By-law (By-law 2017-34) to remove hens from the prohibited animals list.

### Applications/Permits Required

- Application for the Keeping of Egg Laying Hens (Owner must reside where Hens are kept).
- Neighbour Authorization Form (permission must be obtained from abutting property owners).

### Licensing Application Regulations related Hens, Hen Coops and Hen Runs

A maximum of three (3) hens shall be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

- Hens shall be permitted in any Residential Zone, excluding properties with Multi-Residential dwellings; and,
- Roosters are not permitted.

Hen coops and hen runs shall be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

<b>Maximum Lot Coverage</b>	The lesser of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15% of the total lot area or 75% of the ground floor area</li></ul>
<b>Minimum Area</b>	10 ft <sup>2</sup> per Hen
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	1.2 metres
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setbacks</b>	1.2 metres
<b>Maximum Height</b>	2.4 metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hen Coops and Hen Runs are not permitted in the front yard;</li><li>• Hen coop and hen runs must have a minimum setback of 3.0 metres from all windows and doors of dwellings located on an abutting property;</li><li>• Hen coops over 10 m<sup>2</sup> require a building permit</li></ul>

### Zoning By-law Provisions

No regulations which restrict such use.

### Other Information

- Newmarket currently has a total of seven (7) approved residents for residential hens.
- No issues related to zoning as an officer is sent out to confirm setback distances prior to application being approved.
- \*Waiting to hear back from Staff with further information\*

### 3- City of Toronto

#### Status

“UrbanHensTO” Pilot Project: On-going - ends March 2021

#### Background

The UrbanHensTO pilot project was started in March 2018 and allows residents to have hens within the following Wards:

- Ward 5 (Etobicoke-Lakeshore)
- Ward 13 (Parkdale-High Park)
- Ward 21 (St. Paul's)
- Ward 32 (Beaches-East York)

#### Applications/Permits Required

Pilot Registration Form submitted to the Municipal Licensing and Standards Division.

#### Licensing Application Regulations related Hens, Hen Coops and Hen Runs

A maximum of four (4) hens may be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

- Only in Residential Zones with single detached/semi-detached houses or townhouses with a backyard;
- Not permitted in the front yard;
- Roosters are not permitted;
- Enclosures shall not exceed a maximum permitted height of 2.0 metres;
- Enclosures shall not exceed a maximum permitted floor area of 9.2 square metres; and,
- Enclosures must provide each hen with a minimum of 0.37 square metres of floor area and a minimum of 0.92 square metres of roofed outdoor area.

#### Zoning By-law Provisions Regarding Hen Coops and Hen Runs

Hen coops and hen runs are considered to be an accessory building and shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

<b>Maximum Lot Coverage</b>	10%
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.3 metres; OR</li> <li>• If enclosure is on a through lot, in which a residential dwelling on an adjacent lot fronts the street that abuts the rear lot line of the through lot, the minimum rear yard setback shall be equal to the required minimum front yard setback for the dwelling on the adjacent lot.</li> </ul>
<b>Minimum Interior Side Yard Setbacks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equal to the required minimum setback for the dwelling on the lot; OR</li> <li>• If in the rear yard and more than 1.8 metres from the dwelling, the minimum side yard setback shall be 0.3 metres.</li> </ul>
<b>Minimum Exterior Side Yard Setback</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If in the rear yard and located less than 1.8 metres from the dwelling, the minimum exterior side yard setback shall be the same as the dwelling on the lot; OR</li> <li>• If in the rear yard and located more than 1.8 metres from the dwelling, and a residential dwelling on an adjacent lot fronts the street that abuts the exterior lot line of the</li> </ul>

	corner lot, the minimum exterior yard setback shall be equal to the required minimum front yard setback for the dwelling on the adjacent lot.
<b>Setback from a Lane or Access way</b>	2.5 metres

Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*



## 4- City of Orillia

### Status

Urban Hen Pilot Project: On-going - Ends June 2023

### Background

- Pilot project ran from June 5, 2017 through to June 5, 2019 and was extended to June 5, 2023.
- A maximum of twelve (12) properties will be selected for the pilot project; and,
- Participants will be on a first come, first served basis (dependent on a complete application).

### Applications/Permits Required

Hen Coop License Application submitted to the Legislative Services Division

### Licensing Application Regulations related to Hens, Hen Coops and Hen Runs

A maximum of four (4) hens may be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

- In certain Residential Zones (R1, R2, R3 & R4);
- On lots with a minimum area of 500 m<sup>2</sup>; and,
- Roosters are not permitted.

A maximum of one (1) hen coop and one (1) hen run may also be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

<b>Maximum Area for Hen Coop</b>	5 m <sup>2</sup> (min. of 0.37 m <sup>2</sup> per Hen)
<b>Maximum Area for Hen Run</b>	5 m <sup>2</sup> (min. of 0.97 m <sup>2</sup> per Hen)
<b>Minimum Interior Side Yard Setback</b>	3.0 metres
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	3.0 metres
<b>Maximum Height</b>	5.0 metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not permitted in the front yard or exterior side yard; and,</li><li>• Must be located at least:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 8.0 metres from any dwelling;</li><li>○ 3.0 metres from any accessory structure or sewage works; and,</li><li>○ 15.0 metres from any lot line abutting a school.</li></ul></li></ul>

### Zoning By-law Provisions

No regulations which restrict such use.

### Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*

## 5- Clearview Township

### Status

Creation of a Licensing By-law, and a Zoning By-law Amendment – In force and effect since 2016.

### Background

Clearview Township Council implemented a Licensing By-law and made an amendment to the Zoning By-law to permit the keeping of backyard hens in residential areas.

### Applications/Permits Required

Annual Backyard Hen Permit Application - \$30

### Animal Control By-law Provisions related to Hens, Hen Coops and Hen Runs

A maximum of four (4) hens shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

- Shall be permitted in any Residential Zone with a single detached dwelling;
- Roosters shall be prohibited; and,
- A minimum of 0.37 m<sup>2</sup> of coop floor area and 0.92 m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor enclosure or fenced yard shall be provided per hen.

### Zoning By-law Provisions

A maximum of one (1) hen coop, one (1) hen run and one (1) manure storage structure shall also be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

<b>Maximum Lot Coverage</b>	Based on Residential Zone
<b>Maximum Area for Hen Coop &amp; Manure Storage Area (Exclusive of the Outdoor Enclosure)</b>	10 m <sup>2</sup> combined
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	1.0 metres for coops and 3.0 metres for manure storage structures
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	1.0 metres for coops and 3.0 metres for manure storage structures
<b>Maximum Height</b>	2.0 metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coops and manure storage structures may be built together, separately, or within an existing building/structure;</li> <li>• Coops and manure storage structures shall not be located closer to a front lot line or exterior side lot line than the front or exterior side or wall of the primary building; and,</li> <li>• Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) shall not apply;</li> </ul>

### Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*

## 6- Town of Caledon

### Status

Animal Control By-law Amendment – In force and effect since 2017.

### Background

The Town of Caledon amended the Animal Control By-law (By-law 2017-80) in 2017 to permit the keeping of backyard hens in residential areas.

### Applications/Permits Required

None.

### Animal Control By-law Provisions related to Hens, Hen Coops and Hen Runs

A maximum of four (4) hens shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

- Shall be permitted in any Residential Zone, excluding lots with Multi-Residential dwellings; and,
- Roosters shall be prohibited

A maximum of one (1) hen coop and one (1) hen run shall also be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

<b>Maximum Area for Hen Coop &amp; Hen Run</b>	10 m <sup>2</sup> combined (0.37 m <sup>2</sup> min. per Hen for Coop & 0.93 m <sup>2</sup> min. per Hen for Run)
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	2.0 metres
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	2.0 metres
<b>Maximum Height</b>	2.0 metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only permitted in the rear yard; and,</li><li>• Must be located at least:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 3.0 metres from any dwelling on an adjacent lot; and,</li><li>○ 15.0 metres from any lot line abutting a school, business or church.</li></ul></li></ul>

### Zoning By-law Provisions

No regulations which restrict such use.

### Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*

## 7- City of Kingston

### Status

Animal Control By-law Amendment (By-law 2004-144) – In force and effect since 2013.

### Background

- Regulations for keeping egg-laying hens were tested during a pilot period (June 2011 to November 2013); and,
- Council voted to endorse the program and keep it in place long-term at it's November 5, 2013 meeting.

### Applications/Permits Required

- Backyard Hen Application submitted to the Licensing and Enforcement Division
  - Tenants must obtain permission from the property Owner.
- Annual Hen Coop Permit submitted to the Building and Licencing Division
  - All abutting properties must be notified of applicant's intention to obtain a permit.

### Animal Control By-law Provisions related to Hens, Hen Coops and Hen Runs (Section 4.17)

A maximum of six (6) hens shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

- No person shall keep hens anywhere within the City unless they have first obtained a hen coop permit;
- Hens shall be permitted in any Residential Zone; and,
- Roosters are prohibited.

Hen coops and hen runs shall be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	1.2 metres
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	1.2 metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only permitted in the rear yard; and,</li><li>• Must be located at least:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 3.0 metres from any dwelling on an adjacent lot; and,</li><li>○ 15.0 metres from any lot line abutting a school; and;</li><li>○ 7.5 metres from any business or church.</li></ul></li></ul>

### Zoning By-law Provisions

No regulation which restrict such use.

### Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*

## 8- City of Brampton

### Status

Animal Control By-law, User Fee By-law and Brampton Appeal Tribunal By-law Amendments - In force and effect since 2012.

### Background

In 2012, the City of Brampton implemented a By-law to amend Animal Control By-law 261-93, User Fee By-law 380-2003 and Brampton Appeal Tribunal By-law 48-2008, all as amended, to provide for the licensing of owners of hens, to establish fees and to provide for appeals regarding the licensing of owners of hens.

### Applications/Permits Required

Permit required if three (3) or more hens are on a residential lot.

### Animal Control By-law Regulations related to Hens

A maximum of two (2) hens shall be permitted on any residential lot.

### Zoning By-law Provisions related to Hen Coops and Hen Runs

Hen coops and hen runs are considered to be an accessory building and shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

<b>Combined Maximum Area for all Accessory Structures</b>	20m <sup>2</sup> with any other accessory building not exceeding 15m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	0.6 metres
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	0.6 metres
<b>Maximum Height</b>	3.0 metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only permitted in the rear yard; and,</li><li>• Shall not be constructed upon any easement</li></ul>

### Other Information

- City receives few complaints regarding hens in residential areas
- Perceived generally well by residents
- \*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding approximate number of residents and other information\*

## 9- City of Niagara Falls

### Status

Animal Control By-law Amendment – In force and effect since 2005.

### Background

The City of Niagara Falls implemented an Animal Control By-law in 2005 to regulate chickens within the 'Urban Area Boundary'.

### Applications/Permits Required

None.

### Animal Control By-law Provisions related Hens, Hen Coops and Hen Runs

A maximum of ten (10) hens shall be permitted within the 'Urban Boundary', subject to the following provisions:

- No person shall keep a rooster within the Urban Boundary; and,
- All lots having hens must have:
  - A detached dwelling; and,
  - A minimum frontage of 40 ft. and a minimum depth of 100 ft.

Hen coops and hen runs shall also be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

<b>Maximum Area for Hen Coop &amp; Hen Run</b>	10 m <sup>2</sup> combined (0.37 m <sup>2</sup> min. per hen for a coop & 0.93 m <sup>2</sup> min. per hen for a run)
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	4.6 metres
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	7.62 metres
<b>Maximum Height</b>	metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only permitted in the rear yard; and,</li><li>• In the event of any conflict between the provisions of the Animal Control By-law and any other by-law, the provisions of the Animal Control By-law shall prevail.</li></ul>

### Zoning By-law Provisions

No regulations which restricts such use.

### Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*

## 10- City of Quinte West

### Status

- Licensing and Control By-law Amendment (By-law 11-138) – In force and effect since 2011; and,
- Zoning By-law Amendment – In force and effect since 2014

### Background

- The City of Quinte West amended the Animal Control By-law in 2011 to permit backyard hens within Residential areas.
- The Zoning By-law was also amended in 2014 provide zoning provisions related to backyard hens.

### Applications/Permits Required

Annual Hen Coop Permit Application

### Animal Control By-law Provisions related to Zoning

A limit of four (4) hens shall be permitted on each residential property.

### Zoning By-law Provisions

The keeping of hens shall be permitted, subject to the following provisions:

- In Residential Zones on lots with a single detached dwelling; and,
- On lots that have a minimum area of one (1) acre;

Hen coops and hen runs shall also be permitted, subject to the following regulations:

<b>Maximum Area</b>	Shall contain a roofed structure and shall be no greater than 9 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	3.0 metres
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	1.2 metres
<b>Maximum Height</b>	3.0 metres
<b>Other Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only permitted in the rear yard;</li><li>• Shall be located a minimum of 3.0 metres from abutting dwellings; and,</li><li>• Shall be located a minimum of 7.5 metres from any church or school.</li></ul>

### Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*

## 11- City of Brantford

### Status

Animal Control By-law Amendment – In force and effect since 2012

### Background

- The City of Brantford amended their Animal Control By-law in 2012 to permit backyard hens and roosters within Residential areas.
- However, residents are required to be a registered member of the Brant County Pigeon, Poultry, and Pet Stock Association Inc.; or any other organization as approved by the City.
  - The chickens also have to be raised for exhibition at a bona fide agricultural exposition.

### Applications/Permits Required

Must have a membership (in good standing) with the Brant County Pigeon, Poultry and Pet Stock Association Inc. or any other organization approved by the City.

### Animal Control By-law Provisions related to Chickens, Chicken Coops and Chicken Runs

- Other than then dwelling occupied by the Owner of the lot in which the enclosure is located, chicken coops and chicken runs must have a minimum setback distance of 7.5 metres from any dwelling, church or school; and,
- Notwithstanding the above provision, the relocation of any building, structure or other enclosure shall not be required if such building, structure or other enclosure was lawfully being used as a pen on the day of the passing of the enabling by-law; but only for so long as the building, structure or other enclosure continues to be so used.

### Zoning By-law Provisions

No regulations which restrict such use.

### Other Information

\*Waiting to hear back from Staff regarding public perception, complaints, land use compatibility/how many total?\*





CLEARVIEW

## FAQ

Frequently Asked Question

**Q-** How many chickens can I have?

**A-** Residents are permitted to keep a maximum of four hens. Roosters are not permitted.

**Q-** Can I sell excess eggs?

**A-** No, the sale of eggs, manure and other products associated with the keeping of hens is prohibited.

**Q-** How much is the permit?

**A-** There is a \$30.00 annual fee per household. The permit covers up to four chickens.

**Q-** Where can I pick up an application?

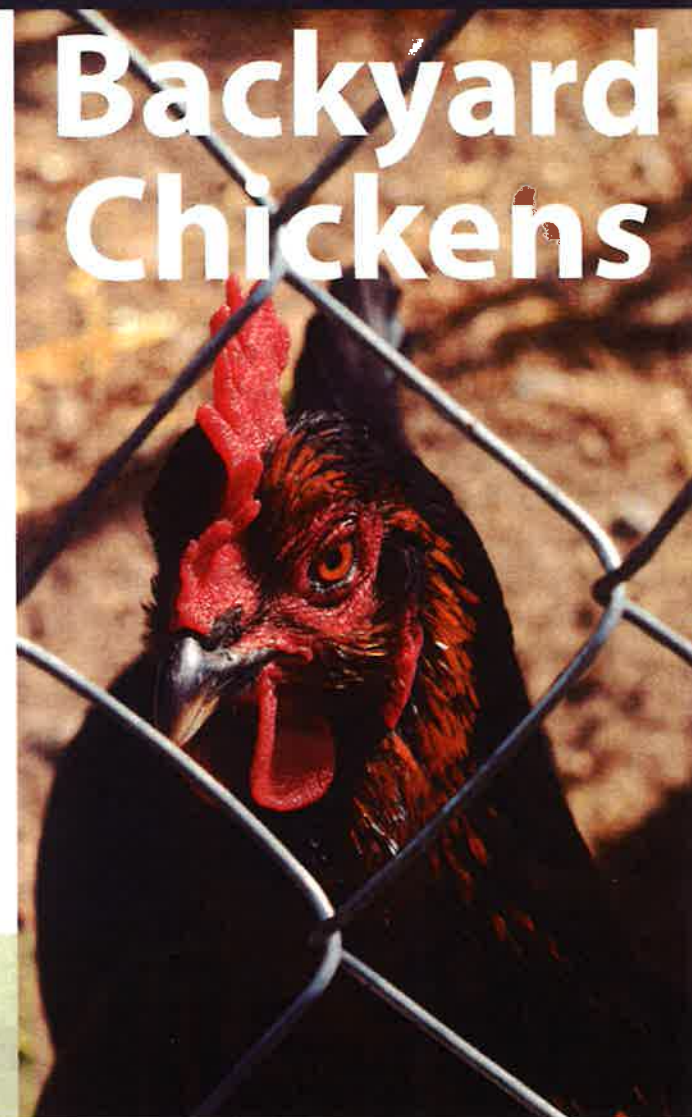
**A-** Applications can be picked up in person at the Clearview Administration Centre at 217 Gideon Street, Stayner.



CLEARVIEW

217 Gideon St. Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0  
T: 705.428.6230 F: 705.428.0288  
[www.clearview.ca](http://www.clearview.ca)

# Backyard Chickens



### By-Law Contact Information

Senior By-Law Enforcement Officer:  
Tel: (705) 428-6230 ext. 241  
Email: [jpaddock@clearview.ca](mailto:jpaddock@clearview.ca)

Report # DS-2019-0104  
Attachment 7  
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# Backyard Chickens

# Requirements

# Definitions

This guide provides insight into the process, requirements and fees associated with the keeping of Backyard Chickens in Clearview Township.

Our goal is to provide residents with relevant information and resources regarding the raising of chickens to ensure a safe and clean process is followed.

If you have any questions please contact the Sr. By-law Officer Joseph Paddock at 705-428-6230 ext. 241 or email [jpaddock@clearview.ca](mailto:jpaddock@clearview.ca)



## Licensing and Fees

There is an annual permit fee of \$30.00 per household for a maximum of four chickens.

Applications and Permits can be purchased in person at the Clearview Administration Centre, 217 Gideon Street, Stayner during regular business hours.

\*This is not a comprehensive list of the requirements. For the full list of requirements and conditions, visit the Clearview Township website.

*A person who keeps one or more hens as Backyard Chickens shall:*

- Be permitted to keep a maximum of four (4) hens at any given time. Roosters are not permitted;
- Provide each hen with at least 0.37m<sup>2</sup> of coop floor area and 0.92m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor enclosure or fenced yard;
- Keep each hen in an enclosed area at all times;
- Provide each hen with food, water, shelter, light, ventilation, veterinary care, and opportunities for essential behaviours, all sufficient to maintain the hen in good health;
- Keep each coop locked from sunset to sunrise;
- Remove leftover feed, trash, and manure in a timely manner.



**Backyard Chickens** - the accessory keeping for hens for the purpose of companionship as a pet or of providing food for the personal consumption of occupants of a dwelling on the same lot, and does not include accessory livestock, or agricultural uses otherwise defined by the Township of Clearview's Zoning By-law.

**Hen** -a domesticated female chicken that is at least four months old.

**Coop** - a full enclosed weatherproof building where hens are kept and which the interior includes nest boxes for eggs laying, perches for the hens to sleep on and food and water containers.

## Resources

Our primary concern is the safety and health of Backyard Chickens. The following resources provide insight into best practices for the keeping of chickens.

- OMAFRA Factsheet- "Biosecurity Recommendations for Small Flock Poultry Owners"
- OMAFRA Resource Kit- "Keeping Your Birds Healthy"

To view these resources, visit:  
[www.omafra.gov.on.ca](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca)

## Draft Urban Hen Regulations for Discussion Purposes

- A maximum of four (4) hens shall be permitted
- Hens must be at least four (4) months old;
- Roosters are prohibited;
- Hens must be kept in their coops from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m
- A hen's food supply shall be stored in secure, rodent/predator-proof containers;
- Home slaughter of hens is prohibited and any deceased hens shall be disposed of at a livestock disposal facility or through the services of a veterinarian
- The sale of eggs, manure and other products associated with the keeping of hens is prohibited
- Hen coops, hen runs and manure storage structures must meet the requirements of the Zoning By-law for accessory structures. Hen coops, hen runs and manure structures shall only be permitted in the rear yard
- Hen coops, hen runs and manure structures shall not exceed a total combined floor area of 10 square metres.
- Hen coops shall provide a minimum area of 0.37 square metres per hen.
- Hen runs shall provide a minimum area of 0.92 square metres per hen;
- Hen coops and manure storage structures may be built together, separately, or within an existing building/structure
- Manure structures shall have a minimum setback distance of 3.0 metres from any lot line;
- Hen coops and hen runs shall be maintained in a clean condition and the coop shall be kept free of obnoxious odours, substances and vermin; and,
- All manure and droppings shall be removed daily from the hen coop and outdoor run, and only stored in a secured container or backyard composter. No more than 0.08 m<sup>3</sup> of manure and/or droppings shall be stored at any one time.