

**THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE
BY-LAW NO. 96-2025**

Being a By-law to Regulate the Keeping of Backyard Laying Hens in the Municipality of North
Grenville

WHEREAS Section 11(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended (the "Act"), permits a municipality to pass by-laws respecting animals;

AND WHEREAS section 8(3) of the Act, permits a municipality to provide for a system of licences with respect to animals;

AND WHEREAS section 425 of the Act, provides that a municipality may pass by-laws providing that a person who contravenes a by-law of the municipality passed under the Act is guilty of an offence;

AND WHEREAS section 429 of the Act, provides that a municipality may establish a system of fines for offences under a by-law of the municipality passed under that Act;

AND WHEREAS section 434.1(1) of the Act, provides that a municipality may require a person, subject to such conditions as the municipality considers appropriate, to pay an administrative penalty if the municipality is satisfied that the person has failed to comply with a by-law of the municipality passed under this Act;

AND WHEREAS section 436 of the Act, provides that a municipality has the power to pass bylaws providing that the municipality may enter on land at any reasonable time for the purpose of carrying out an inspection to determine whether or not a bylaw of the municipality is being complied with;

AND WHEREAS Council deems it desirable to permit the keeping of hens in certain areas of the Municipality under regulated conditions;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of North Grenville enacts as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. In this By-law:

"Administrative Penalty By-law" means the Administrative Penalty By-law of the Municipality, as amended from time to time, or any successor thereof;

"Applicant" means any person who applies for a backyard laying hen licence under this By-law.

“Director” means the Director of Planning and Development for the Municipality, or their designate.

“Officer” means a person appointed by the Municipality as a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer.

“Backyard Laying Hen” means a domesticated female chicken (*Gallus gallus domesticus*) kept for the purpose of producing eggs for personal use. A Laying Hen does not include any chicken kept for the purpose of meat production.

“Meat Hen” (or “Broiler Chicken”) means a domesticated chicken of any sex that is kept or raised primarily for the purpose of meat production, including but not limited to broilers, roasters, and any other chickens intended for slaughter.

“Coop” means a fully enclosed structure for the shelter of hens.

“Designated provision” means any section of this By-law designated in accordance with section 27;

“Run” means a securely enclosed outdoor area attached to a coop where hens may roam.

“License” means a license issued under this By-law permitting the keeping of backyard laying hens.

“Municipality” means the Corporation of the Municipality of North Grenville.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

2. No person shall keep backyard laying hens within the Municipality unless in accordance with the provisions of this By-law.
3. No person shall keep backyard laying hens unless they are located on properties zoned for residential use, including single detached, semi-detached and townhouse dwelling units, and not on multi-residential, commercial, or industrial properties.
4. This by-law shall not apply to properties zoned Rural and Agriculture where hobby farms are a permitted use.
5. No person shall permit the keeping of roosters. Only backyard laying hens are permitted.
6. No person shall keep, raise, or permit to be kept any Meat Hen on a residential property to which this by-law applies.

7. No person shall keep more than the maximum number of hens allowed per property, which is seven (7).
- ~~8. No person shall permit the sale, public distribution, or commercial exchange of eggs which is strictly prohibited. Eggs produced by backyard laying hens shall be for personal use only.~~
9. No person shall permit backyard laying hens to be at large. Backyard laying hens must be kept securely within the owner's property boundaries at all times. Allowing hens to access public property or neighbouring properties is prohibited.

LICENSING AND INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

10. No person shall keep backyard laying hens without first obtaining a license from the Municipality.
11. The applicant shall:
 - a) Be the owner of the property or have written consent from the owner.
 - b) Reside on the same property that the coop will be located.
 - c) Submit a site plan showing the location of the coop and run.
 - d) Pay a license fee of in accordance with the fees and charges by-law.
 - e) Ensure compliance with zoning and property standards by-laws.
12. The license shall be valid until such a time that the backyard laying hens and associated coop and run are removed from the property.
13. The application requirements, including all supporting documentation and the method of submission, shall be determined by the Director.
14. All applications shall be reviewed by an Officer, and the issuance of a Licence shall be at the discretion of the Officer once a physical inspection of the property and the chicken coop has been completed during regular business hours with a scheduled appointment.
15. The Municipality may refuse, suspend, or revoke a license for non-compliance with this By-law.
16. A Licence issued under this By-law may also be revoked by an Officer or the Director under the following circumstances:
 - a) The Licensee provided false or misleading information in their application for a License;
 - b) There are reasonable grounds for belief that the chicken coop poses a safety risk to the public;

- c) Written notice has been received from the Medical Officer of Health, or other authority, stating that the Licensee is operating contrary to this by-law or any other provincial statute.
17. If a Licensee fails to remove the chicken coop within the time period specified by an Officer, the Municipality may remove, or cause the removal of, the chicken coop without further notice. All costs associated with such removal shall be the sole responsibility of the Licensee and may be recovered by the Municipality through any lawful means.
18. In the event of a Licence revocation, all fees paid in connection with the Licence shall be non-refundable. The Licensee may submit a new application for a Licence, subject to the applicable fees as set out in the Fees and Charges By-Law.
19. Licences are non-transferable.

COOP AND RUN REQUIREMENTS

20. No person shall permit the establishment of a Coop and runs that does not comply with the following:
- a) Only one coop and one run are permitted per lot.
 - b) The maximum ground floor area of the coop shall not exceed 9 m².
 - c) The roof height of the coop shall not exceed 2.5 metres.
 - d) Combined coop and manure storage shall not exceed 10 m².
 - e) The minimum floor area per hen shall be 0.37 m² (4 ft²).
 - f) The minimum run area per hen shall be 0.92 m² (10 ft²).
 - g) The run and coop must be enclosed, including a roof, predator proof, vented and weatherproof.
 - h) The coop and run shall be located in the rear yard only.
 - i) Any coop or run shall be setback a minimum of 1.5 metres (4.9 feet) from any lot line.
 - j) Any coop or run shall be setback a minimum of 2.4 metres (7.8 feet) from any dwelling on the same lot.
 - k) Any coop or run shall be setback a minimum of 3 metres (9.8 feet) from any part of an adjacent dwelling.
 - l) Any coop or run shall be setback a minimum of 3 metres from any part of any septic system.
 - m) Any coop or run shall be setback a minimum of 15 metres (49.2 feet) from any part of any well and 30 metres (98.4 feet) from a non-cased well.
 - n) A coop and a run is required.
21. No person shall permit any part of the coop or run to be located in any drainage easement or utility corridor.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

22. The owner shall:

- a) Provide food, water, and shelter appropriate to the species.
- b) Store feed in a rodent-proof container.
- c) Maintain the coop and run to prevent offensive odours or unsanitary conditions.
- d) Collect and dispose of manure in a sanitary manner; composting is permitted in accordance with municipal standards.
- e) Provide proper vet care and regular upkeep on the backyard laying hen's health.
- f) Ensure that backyard laying hens are kept in the coop from sunset to sunrise.

23. No person shall slaughter or euthanize a backyard laying hen on the property.

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

24. Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers may reasonably enter and inspect any property to determine compliance.

25. No person shall hinder, obstruct, or attempt to obstruct an Officer, or any employee or agent acting on behalf of the Municipality, in the performance of their duties under this By-Law.

26. Any person contravening this by-law, shall upon request by an officer identify themselves.

27. Sections 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25 and 26 of this By-law are hereby designated as parts of this By-law to which the Administrative Penalty By-law applies.

28. Any person shall, upon issuance of a penalty notice for a contravention of this By-law, in accordance with the Administrative Penalty By-law, be liable to pay an administrative penalty and any administrative fees, in accordance with the Administrative Penalty By-law.

29. Any person who contravenes any provision of this by-law is, upon conviction, guilty of an offence and is liable to any penalty as provided in the Provincial Offences Act.

30. All the provisions of this by-law continue to apply in the Provincial Offences Act in addition to the designated provisions of this by-law.

31. Where a person has not paid the administrative penalty within thirty (30) days in accordance with the Administrative Penalty By-law, the Municipality may add the administrative penalty to the tax roll for any property for which the owner or owners are responsible for paying the administrative penalty under Section 28.

32. Each day of non-compliance constitutes a separate offence.

ADMINISTRATIVE

33. If any provision of this By-law is found to be invalid or unenforceable, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

34. The licensee is required to comply with all other by-laws and applicable laws as it relates to the keeping of backyard laying hens.

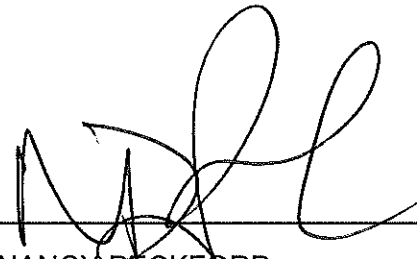
35. The Clerk of the Municipality of North Grenville is hereby authorized to make any minor modifications or corrections of an administrative, numerical, grammatical, semantic or descriptive nature or kind to this by-law and schedules as may be deemed necessary after passage of this By-Law, where such modifications or corrections do not alter the intent of the By-Law.

36. This By-Law shall be known as the "Backyard Laying Hen By-Law".

37. This By-law shall come into force and take effect on January 1st, 2026.

PASSED AND ENACTED

THIS 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2025.



NANCY PECKFORD
Mayor

KAITLIN BOS
Clerk