

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES

BY-LAW #2025-21

BEING A BY-LAW TO REGULATE THE KEEPING OF CERTAIN KINDS OF ANIMALS WITHIN THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES

WHEREAS Sections of the Municipal Act 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 confers the power to pass by-laws regulating or prohibiting animals to a lower-tier or single-tier municipality;

AND WHEREAS Section 8(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 provides that a by-law under Section 10(1) respecting a matter may;

- (a) Regulate or prohibit respecting the matter;
- (b) Require persons to do things respecting the matter; and
- (c) Provide for a system of licences respecting the matter;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bruce Mines deems it expedient to regulate the keeping of certain types of animals within the Town of Bruce Mines;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bruce Mines enacts as follows:

1. Definitions in this by-law:

Animal Control Officer — means a Town of Bruce Mines By-law Enforcement Officer;

Coop — means a fully enclosed weatherproof building where hens are kept, which prevents them from escaping and which the interior of includes nest boxes for egg laying, perches for the hens to sleep on and food and water containers

Disposed — means to sell, adopt out or destroy

Hen — means a domesticated female chicken that is at least four months old

Owner — shall mean any person who possesses or harbours a domestic fowl;

Permit — means a permit issued under this by-law (Schedule B)

Permit Fee — means the monetary cost for a permit (Schedule C)

Poultry — shall mean and include geese, ducks, turkeys, chickens, roosters and any other such poultry and the young of any of them,

Run — mean a secure enclosure that allows female chickens access to outdoors and shall be located in the rear yard of a residential yard only

Town — shall mean the Corporation of the Town of Bruce Mines

Yard — on a residential lot, yard means the land around or adjoining the whole or any part of a residential dwelling; and for residential lots, it generally refers to the front, back and side yard portions of a property

Notwithstanding Schedule “A”, section 3, In the Class of Aves, of By-law 2004-23 as amended, a person may keep chickens (Hens) in their backyard within the Town of Bruce Mines with the provisions set out in this By-law and Schedules.

2. That the regulations, to be known as “Schedule A”, shall form part of this by-law;
3. That the permit fee, to be known as “Schedule B”, shall form part of this by-law;

4. That the permit application, to be know as “Schedule C” , shall form part of this by-law;
5. That this by-law shall come into force and take effect on the date it receives third and final reading.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED AND ENACTED THIS 14TH DAY OF JULY, 2025.

MAYOR - Lory Patteri

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR - Judy Davis

SCHEDULE "A"
BY-LAW NO. 2025-21

**REGULATIONS REGARDING THE KEEPING OF URBAN HENS
IN THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES**

1. A maximum of four (4) Hens are permitted on Residential Properties within the Town of Bruce Mines, as defined by this By-law.
 - a) Hens are not permitted on multi-residential properties.
 - b) Written permission from the property owner must be obtained if the applicant is renting.
 - c) Hens are not permitted in the business area of the Town.
2. The keeping of Roosters or any other type of Poultry is prohibited.
3. An application must be submitted to the Town prior to obtaining hens; a one-time application fee of \$65.00 applies.
 - a) Applicant shall have the property inspected by staff. The property inspection is to check the distance of your chicken coop from the property line and to ensure other regulations are met.
 - b) An annual renewal fee of \$40.00 will be required.
4. The Licensee shall reside on the Property where the Hens are kept.
5. Written notice to neighbours, including a copy of regulations, by-law and Provincial Animal Welfare Service contact information shall be given to abutting neighbours once the permit is issued.
6. Hens shall be kept in locked Hen Coops from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
7. Hen coops shall only be permitted in the rear yard.
8. Maximum of one (1) Hen coop, and one (1) outdoor run shall be permitted;
9. Hens shall be confined to an enclosed Hen Coop or fenced area/Hen Run at all times.
10. Hen coops shall have adequate ventilation and shall be weather and predator proof.
 - a) Chicken wire (openings no larger than 1/2") should be buried into the ground surrounding the coop a minimum of 6 inches to help prevent pests and predators burrowing into the structure.
 - b) The floor of the coop shall be a solid floor and be lined with shavings, straw or other appropriate materials to absorb manure, facilitate cleaning and provide insulation.
11. Hens shall be provided with appropriate food, water, space and environmental conditions conducive to good health and the opportunity to socialize and engage in fundamental behaviours such as scratching, roosting and dust bathing.
12. Feeders and water containers shall be provided and cleaned regularly and disinfected.

13. Feed shall be stored in rodent-proof containers and secured at all times to prevent rodents and other animals from accessing it.
 - a) Vermin must be kept under control.
 - b) Should vermin become an uncontrolled nuisance, the chicken, coop and run shall be removed from the property immediately.
14. A minimum of 4 square feet per Hen is required for the Hen Coop, along with a minimum of 8 square feet per Hen for the Run.
15. Hen Coops and Hen Runs shall meet the following requirements:
 - a) All coops shall be located only in the rear yard;
 - b) No less than 7.5 m. from structures on other lots;
 - c) 2.5 m. from side yard lot lines;
 - d) 1.2 m. away from rear lot lines;
 - e) 2.5 m. from a rear lot line abutting a side yard;
 - f) Should your property not allow for adequate setback allowance, then no chickens will be allowed.
16. Hen Coops and Hen Runs shall be maintained in a clean condition and the Hen Coop shall be kept free of obnoxious odours, substances and vermin.
 - a) Coops shall be cleaned weekly and sanitized 2-3 times each year.
17. Hens are kept in accordance with all other laws including the Town's by-laws respecting noise, lot maintenance, property standards and animals.
18. All deceased backyard Hens shall be disposed of promptly in a sanitary manner, at a livestock disposal facility or through the services of a veterinarian. A record must be kept by the owners of the disposal of Hens. The slaughtering of backyard Hens on the owner's property is prohibited.
19. Any instance of mistreatment or neglect of the Hens and Coop with result in;
 - a) Hens removed from the property by the Provincial Animal Welfare Service.
 - b) Owner required to remove coop and run.
 - c) No future Urban Hen permit will be issued to this owner.
20. No sale of eggs or meat.
21. Anyone keeping Urban Hens indemnifies the Town of Bruce Mines of any and all liability related to the keeping of Hens on their property.

Provincial Animal Welfare Service (PAWS): Abuse and neglect of any animal is not tolerated in Ontario. If you think an animal is in distress or is being abused, call 1-833-926-4625

For more information & Education Resources:

“Bird Health Basics” video and “Bird Health Basics” Fact Sheet by the CIFA

[https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrialanimals/bjosecurityL1001s\[vaeo/eng/1320092234079/1322158553549](https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrialanimals/bjosecurityL1001s[vaeo/eng/1320092234079/1322158553549)

“Small Flock Poultry: Raising Healthy Birds” by OMAFRA

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/raise-healthy-small-flock-poultry>

“Rodent Control in Livestock and Poultry Facilities” by OMAFRA

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/rodent-control-livestock-and-poultry-facilities>

Peruse the learning hub at Small Flock Ontario <https://smallflockontario.ca/>

SCHEDULE "B"
BY-LAW NO. 2025-21

PERMIT FEE

BACKYARD CHICKEN APPLICATION FEE \$65.00
ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE \$40.00

SCHEDULE "C"
BY-LAW NO. 2025-21



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES
Application for the Keeping of Backyard Chickens

Applicant Information

Name of Applicant	
Name of Landowner (if other than Applicant)	
Address of Property where Chickens are to be kept	
Mailing address of Applicant (if different than above)	
Telephone Number	
Email (optional)	

Declarations

I _____, (name of applicant(s) hereby declare:

1. That I have reviewed the following documents:
 - a. "Small Flock Poultry: Raising Healthy Birds" by OMAFFRA
 - b. "Rodent Control in Livestock and Poultry Facilities" by OMAFFRA
2. That I will provide for suitable housing and shelter of the chickens in my care and will maintain such housing in a clean and wholesome state, having regard for Raising Healthy Small Flock Poultry Recommendations for small flock chicken owners.
3. That I will provide the Chickens in my care with appropriate food, water, space and environmental conditions conducive to good health and the opportunity to socialize and engage in fundamental behaviours such as scratching, roosting and dust bathing.
4. That I will abide by the regulations set out in "Schedule A" of By-law No. 2025-____, as provided.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Witness

Where applicant is a tenant, the signature of the landowner is required below confirming they are aware of and support the application for keeping of Backyard Chickens on the lands.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Witness