



“The Island City”

City of Plainwell Back Yard Chicken Application

Plainwell City Hall
211 N. Main Street
Plainwell, MI 49080
Phone: 269-685-6821
Fax: 269-685-7282
www.plainwell.org

Permit #: _____

1. Applicant Information

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

2. Parcel Number _____ Zoning District _____

Do you Own this property yes no

3. Drawing Required with the following details:

Location of structure on property Enclosure building materials

Location of chicken enclosure Setbacks from property lines

Size and height of the enclosure Predator barrier details

4. Proposed Number of Chicken _____ (cannot be more than 3)

5. Application Fee: \$35

I understand that before the issuance of a backyard chicken permit, I must have an approved Permit Application. Additionally, the UNDERSIGNED affirms that he/she/they is (are) the owner of the subject property authorized to represent the interests of all property owners involved in this application and that the answers and statements herein contained and all maps, plans, and other information herewith submitted and attached are in all respects true to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief. Additionally, the UNDERSIGNED acknowledges they have received or have been made available all applicable Ordinances relevant to said project, and further, will comply with said Ordinances.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Administrative Use Only:

Is this project consistent with the Master Plan? Yes No Application: Approved Denied

Signature of Zoning Administrator: _____ Date: _____

Remarks: _____



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Sec. 53-132D. KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS.

- A. *Intent.* The intent of this section is to allow the raising of backyard chickens in single-family neighborhoods while protecting the urban character of the community. The keeping of backyard chickens is distinct from the keeping of other types of livestock or animals of a similar nature as chickens do not graze and require a small, contained area that more appropriately fits within the existing built environment and lot sizes in the City of Plainwell.
- B. No person shall keep chickens unless comply with the following requirements:
1. Prior to keeping any chickens, a backyard chicken permit shall be obtained, along with any fee required by the City Council. A backyard chicken permit shall be valid indefinitely or until the property is sold or transferred to another owner unless the permit is suspended or revoked
 2. The keeping of chickens is permitted only on lots where the principal use is a single-family dwelling in the R-1A and R-1B zoning districts. The single-family dwelling shall be owner-occupied. The keeping of chickens in all other zoning districts is prohibited.
 3. The maximum number of chickens permitted per property shall be three (3). Roosters are prohibited.
 4. Chickens shall be provided, and maintained within, a fully enclosed, roofed structure at all times.
 5. All areas accessible to the chickens, including the structure and run, shall be contained in a single enclosure not to exceed sixty (60) square feet in footprint and six (6) feet in height measured from the immediate surrounding grade.
 6. The enclosure shall be constructed of durable, conventional residential building materials suitable for the purpose intended, and in a manner, which serves to enhance the aesthetic appearance of the neighborhood or surrounding area. The use of tarps, scrap materials, plastic sheeting, and similar non-rigid or poor-quality coverings is prohibited.
 7. The enclosure shall have chicken wire or similar material embedded twelve (12) inches into the ground around the enclosure to deter predators from digging under the enclosure wall. The enclosure may alternatively be raised or contain a durable, hard surface bottom to accomplish the same.
 8. The enclosure shall be located in the rear yard and at least twenty (20) feet from the side and rear property lines.
 9. The enclosure shall be maintained in a clean and orderly fashion.
 10. Chicken feed shall be kept in a vermin-proof sealed container.
 11. Slaughtering of chickens is not permitted.
 12. Eggs shall not be sold on the property.



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