Can I keep chickens at my house in Fridley?

Residents of Fridley are permitted to keep chickens if they live on a residentially zoned property in either a single-family home, a duplex, or a twin home. Chickens are not permitted on properties with three (3) or more dwelling units.

Residents who want to keep chickens at their homes must have a coop to house the chickens and a chicken run where the chickens may roam unsupervised.

Do I need a license?

Yes, a license is required before a chicken coop can be installed on your property. Chicken coops of ANY size are considered detached accessory buildings. This includes all small pre-built coops.

The license fee is $100 for a new Keeping of Chickens License and $25 Renewal fee every year after. All chicken keeping must follow the rules laid out in the City’s animal ordinance, Section 101.04. Chickens. These rules will be enforced in response to complaints.

How to obtain a license

To obtain a license, visit the CitizenServe Portal at https://www.citizenserve.com/fridley

Where can I get more information regarding keeping of chickens at my home?

The University of Minnesota Extension website provides detailed information regarding the keeping of chickens: extension.umn.edu/small-scale-poultry/raising-chickens-eggs

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health provides rules on properly disposing of a deceased chicken carcass: bah.state.mn.us/carcass-disposal/

How to obtain the Required Education Certificate

You can obtain the proof of education program/course by using one of the below links. We will accept any other program/course with proof of education.


⇒ Free online class from the University of Arkansas Introduction to Backyard Poultry https://courses.uaex.edu/course/index.php?categoryid=76

How do I submit a complaint regarding a neighbor’s chickens?

You can submit a complaint using the CitizenServe platform: https://www.citizenserve.com/Fridley or by calling Code Enforcement at 763-572-3598.
What are the rules for the chickens themselves?

1. Roosters and loud clucking hens are prohibited.
2. There shall be no chickens allowed or kept inside of any residential garage or dwelling unit.
3. Chickens shall be secured inside of a shelter from sunset to sunrise each day to prevent nuisance noise and attraction of predators.
4. Housing facilities and grounds shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and kept in good repair. Flies, rodents and noxious odors shall be controlled. Facilities shall be kept free of fecal matter and collected fecal matter shall be properly stored and disposed of weekly.
5. Chickens shall be fed within the confines of the chicken coop or run area. Feed shall be stored in leak-proof containers with a tight-fitting cover to prevent attracting vermin.
6. There shall be no slaughtering or butchering of any chickens on residential properties with the City of Fridley.

What are the rules for my coop and run?

- Residents on properties zoned R-1, Single Family Residential may be permitted to keep and raise chickens as a hobby with a license and shall be limited to a maximum of six (6) chickens per property.
- Coop and run area must be located in the backyard and must be located a minimum of thirty (30) feet from all adjacent property lines.
- Coop and covered run shall be limited to no more than sixty (60) square feet and maximum height of six (6) feet.
- Coop size shall be not less than three (3) square feet per bird, be weather proof and fully enclosed.
- The coop shall comply with current zoning and building codes. The coop shall be constructed architecturally appropriate building materials including exterior grade siding and either a metal, composite or shingled roof. In the alternative, coop may be purchased from a commercial source that constructs structures specifically to be used as coops for chickens.
- The run shall have a fence around the enclosure and shall be securely constructed with mesh type material.
- The run shall have protective overhead netting or fencing to prevent the chickens from roaming freely and to protect them from other animals.
- If the keeping of chickens has been discontinued for more than 12 months, the licensee must remove the coop and run and restore the site within days.

Is there anything else I should be aware of?

The City encourages residents to talk to their neighbors before getting chickens to ensure everyone understands the ordinance. This allows for minor issues to be resolved in a friendly manner without requiring a formal intervention by the City. This handout is not all-inclusive and residents are encouraged to also review Section 101.04 Chickens of the City Code.

Please remember that you are responsible for following all building, zoning and electrical requirements.

Some neighborhoods may have a private covenants restricting animal keeping. The City does not track or enforce private covenants.