HOW DO I APPLY FOR A CHICKEN PERMIT?

- Permit forms are available at City Hall and City website
- Permit form must be signed and fee's paid once approved
- A scaled drawing of where the coop & run will go including distance from properties and parcel boundaries.
- The number and breed of chickens you intend to keep
- Signed authorization by either the property owner or home owners association if applicable.
- Obtain an electrical permit if you plan to include electrical to the coop.
- Identify a detailed feces and waste removal plan

Who do I call if I want to complain about someone's chickens?

Contact City Hall and make a citizen complaint. The City will need the address of property that has the chickens and the reason for the complaint.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

City of St. Francis
http://stfrancismn.org
City Code Chapter 8

University of MN Extension
http://www.extension.umn.edu/food/small-farms/livestock/poultry/

Chicken Run Rescue
http://www.chickenrunrescue.org/

MN Dept. of Agriculture
http://www.mda.state.mn.us/about/divisions/dairyfood.aspx
Sale of locally home or farm raised poultry http://www.mda.state.mn.us/licensing/inspections/-/media/Files/food/foodsafety/poutrysales.ashx

CONTACTS

City Hall 763-753-2630
Building Official 763-235-2317
Electrical Permit 320-396-2648
MN Dept. of Agriculture Diary & Food Inspection (sale of eggs) 651-201-6027
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Are any permits required to have chickens?
   All properties that are under 5 acres that are requesting to have chickens must obtain a permit. Properties over 5 acres are not required to have a permit but must meet animal requirements per City Code.
   Only 20 permits will be allowed citywide for properties less than 2.5 acres.

2. How many chickens are allowed?
   Properties under 2.5 acres = 5 maximum
   Properties 2.5 to 5 acres = 10 maximum
   Properties over 5 acres—see city code

3. Does approval only go by property size?
   No. Your zoning district also matters. Some districts prohibit chickens and farm animals completely.

4. I do not own my home, May I still have chickens?
   Depending on parcel size and zoning, you may be able to have chickens as long as the property owner agrees and signs permit form.

5. Can I keep chickens in my home or garage?
   Chickens can NOT be kept inside the home or garage. They must remain in the coop or run at all times.

6. Can I put the coop/run anywhere on my property?
   Coops & runs must be at least 15 feet from side lot lines and must be closer to your house than your neighbors.

7. How big should a coop be?
   Coops shall have a maximum footprint area of 10 sq. ft. per chicken and a minimum of 5 sq. ft.

8. What size should a run be?
   Runs shall have a maximum footprint area of 20 sq. ft. per chicken and a minimum of 10 sq. ft.

9. Can I have a rooster and breed chickens?
   Roosters and breeding of chickens on properties less than 5 acres is not permitted.

10. If I move can I take my permit with me?
    The permit is only good for the owner that applied at the address it was applied for. The Permit does not transfer to a new owner and it cannot be moved to a new home even within the City.

11. How long is the permit good for?
    Permits do not expire. However, if you do not communicate with the City it may be at risk of it being revoked.

12. Will the city inspect my property?
    Yes, an inspection is required as part of the permit process. This is done to verify health, safety and location of the structures. If a complaint is received, the City will again visit the property to investigate the issue.

13. Can my permit be denied or revoked?
    Owners of chickens hold a great deal of responsibility to follow City Code. A permit will be denied or revoked for issues of non-compliance, inaccurate permit information, creating a nuisance or any public health or safety issues.