

The Village of Edmore Ordains
An Ordinance to allow for the keeping of chickens
Village Council
Village of Edmore
Montcalm County, Michigan
Adopted 9/11/17
Published 9/18/17
Effective 9/18/17

**Ordinance 2017-5
Chicken Ordinance**

A person who keeps or houses hens on his or her property shall comply with the following requirements:

- (1) Obtain a non-transferable permit from the village clerk. A non-refundable fee of \$5.00 five dollars shall be paid at the time the permit application is submitted.
- (2) No more than one hen per each ten (10) square feet of enclosures (ten square feet per adult hen and baby chicks), with no more than six (6) hens over six (6) months of age.
- (3) The principal use of the person's property must be as an owner-occupied single-family dwelling.
- (4) No person shall keep a male chicken (rooster). If any person shall be found to have a male chicken they shall be notified by the village. Once notified the person shall have five days to remove the male chicken or their permit will be immediately revoked.
- (5) No person shall slaughter any hens except as required for the culling of injured or ill chickens.
- (6) The hens shall be provided with a covered enclosure.
- (7) A person shall keep hens in the backyard only. For this section, "backyard" means the portion of a lot enclosed by the property's rear lot line and the side lot lines to the point where the side lot lines intersect with the imaginary line established by the rear of the single-family structure and extending to the side lot lines.
- (8) All enclosures for the keeping of hens shall be constructed, repaired and maintained in a manner to prevent rats, mice or other rodents from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of the enclosure.

(9) All feed and other items associated with the keeping of hens that are likely to attract or to become infested shall be stored in a covered, rodent-proof container so as to prevent rats, mice, or other rodents from gaining access to or coming into contact with such items and the container shall be stored in an enclosed shed or garage.

(10) Chicken coops and enclosures shall be set back not less than ten feet from side and rear lot lines and not less than forty (40) feet from any residential structure on adjoining lots. Chicken coops and enclosures existing prior to the adoption of this section shall be permitted less than the required setback distance provided a permit is obtained within 90 days from the date of section adoption and in accordance with conditions of this section.

Any person keeping hens remains subject to the public nuisance provisions of this Code and any private restrictions on the use of property that may be contained within deed restrictions or similar instruments.

Current Zoning Ordinance

Section 2.11 Keeping of livestock pets and livestock

The keeping of horses and livestock is permitted on any parcel provided that there shall be a minimum of five (5) acres for the first animal and one (1) additional acre for each additional animal up to and including ten (10) animals.

Proposed change

Section 2.11

Section A. Definitions

For the purpose of this code livestock shall mean – Horses, sheep, goats, donkeys, mules, pigs, cows, ducks, geese, chickens, or any hoofed animal. This shall include any other animal used as human food or fiber. Dogs and cats are not considered livestock.

Section B. Restrictions

The keeping of livestock is permitted on any parcel provided that there shall be a minimum of five (5) acres for the first animal and one (1) additional acre for each additional animal up to and including ten (10) animals.

Section C. Exceptions

Exception shall be made for chickens providing the person shall follow the guidelines of ordinance 2017-5