



Metro Animal Care and Control

5125 Harding Place | Nashville, Tennessee 37211 | (615) 340-8907 phone | (615) 340-0586 fax

DOMESTICATED HEN PERMIT RULES AND REGULATIONS

PERMIT RESTRICTIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS

- 1) No roosters. No breeding or slaughtering of domesticated hens. No sale of eggs or domesticated hens. No domesticated hens may be trained for the purpose of fighting for amusement, sport or financial gain.
- 2) Permits are required annually. They expire December 31st each year.
- 3) Permits may not be reassigned to another person or another address, and the permit holder must live on the property where the domesticated hens are kept. If the permit holder does not own the property, he or she must have the permission of the property owner.
- 4) If the permit holder is absent from the property for 60 consecutive days, the permit is null and void.

COOPS, SETBACKS AND MATERIALS

- 5) All domesticated hens are to be kept outside of a habitable structure in a predator-proof enclosure, a portion of which must be a covered domesticated hen house and a portion of which must be a fenced area. The fenced area must comply with Title 16.24.330 of the Metropolitan Code of Ordinances. Domesticated hen houses must be enclosed on all sides and have a roof and doors. Access doors must be lockable. Openings in windows and vents must be covered with predator-proof wire with openings smaller than a square inch.
- 6) The enclosed domesticated hen house must provide a minimum of two square feet per domesticated hen. The fenced enclosure must provide six square feet per bird.
- 7) The number of allowable domesticated hens depends upon lot size.
 - For lots of up to 5,009 square feet (up to .11 acre), TWO domesticated hens are allowed.
 - For lots between 5,010 square feet and 10,236 square feet (.12 to .23 acre) up to FOUR domesticated hens are allowed.
 - For lots of 10,237 square feet or more (.24 acre or larger) up to SIX domesticated hens are allowed.
- 8) All domesticated hens must be kept in the side or rear yards. None may be kept in the front yard. If in the side yard, neither the domesticated hens nor the domesticated hen house can be visible from any public right-of-way. The domesticated hens and domesticated hen house must be screened from view with fencing or landscaping.
- 9) *All enclosures must be at least 25 feet from any residential structure, other than the permit holder's residence, and at least 10 feet from any property line.*

HEALTH AND SANITATION

- 10) All food must be kept either indoors or in a weather-resistant container with a metal lid designed to prevent access by animals. Uneaten food is to be removed daily.
- 11) Fenced enclosures and domesticated hen houses must be properly ventilated, clean, dry and odor-free, kept in a neat and sanitary condition at all times in a manner that will not disturb the use or enjoyment of neighboring lots due to noise, odor or other adverse impact. The domesticated hen house and fenced enclosure must provide adequate ventilation, sun and shade, and be built to resist rodents, wild birds and other predators, including dogs and cats.
- 12) Provision must be made for the storage and removal of domesticated hen manure. All manure for composting or fertilizing shall be contained in a well-aerated garden compost pile. All other manure requires removal. In addition, the domesticated hen house and surrounding area must be kept free from trash and accumulated droppings.
- 13) *No perceptible odor from the domesticated hens or the enclosure shall be present at any property line.*

By affixing my signature below I acknowledge that I have read and understood these rules and regulations.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

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