

THE CITY OF CRANSTON

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**ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
IN AMENDMENT OF TITLE 6, CHAPTER 4 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF  
CRANSTON, 2012, ENTITLED “Animals Generally”**

*No.*

*Passed:*

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*Anthony J. Lupino, Council President*

*Approved:*

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*Allan W. Fung, Mayor*

*It is ordained by the City Council of the City of Cranston as follows:*

**Section 1.** Chapter 6.04, entitled “Animals Generally” is hereby amended by adding thereto Section 6.04.40 – Domestic Chickens:

**6.04.40 Domestic Chickens**

(1) The keeping of chicken hens pursuant to this section shall be primarily for the purpose of raising chicken hens and collecting the eggs produced thereof: this section shall not be construed to allow for the commercial slaughter **OR** sale of any chicken hens **OR EGGS** for any purpose.

(2) As used herein, “lot” shall mean one (1) or more parcels of land which are contiguous and are under the same ownership according to the tax assessor’s records and which are zoned residential or are residential as a legal nonconforming use pursuant to the zoning ordinance.

(3) The owner of any dwelling may keep or permit to be kept on the lot containing the dwelling, one (1) hen per eight hundred (800) square feet of **OPEN** lot area, with a maximum of ten (10) on any lot, provided that they comply with each and every provisions of this section.

(4) The owner of the hen(s) must be a resident of said dwelling.

(5) No person shall keep **OR RAISE** any rooster.

(6) No chicken hens may be kept or raised within the dwelling.

(7) The raising of chicken hens shall be restricted to back yards or side yards; chicken hens shall not be permitted, at any time, on the part of the property directly abutting a main road or street.

**(8) Prior to construction, plans must be submitted and approved by the Building Official, which shall include:**

- a.) **Site plan showing proposed location with relation to all property lines and adjacent structures.**
- b.) **Construction details to comply with predator restraint guidelines as given.**
- c.) **Inspection and Plan Review fees of \$35.00.**
- d.) **Registration Certificate issued by City Clerk for verification.**

(9) No hen house (coop) shall be built onto any shared fence.

(10) The coop and run shall not be located closer than twenty (20) feet to any residential structure on an adjacent property and must comply with zoning setback requirements *pursuant to Cranston City Code Section 17.60.010*.

(11) All chicken hens must be provided with both a hen house (coop) and a fenced outdoor enclosure, subject to the following provisions:

- a.) The coop must provide the chicken hens with adequate protection from the elements, inclement weather and provide for the chicken hens' good health and prevent unnecessary or unjustified suffering.
- b.) The hen house must be covered, predator resistant, and well-ventilated.
- c.) All above ground openings in the coop, such as windows and ventilation holes, must be covered with half-inch hardware cloth to prevent predator/rodent access.
- d.) The hen house (coop) must have a floor and be surrounded by half-inch hardware cloth, buried at least twelve inches into the ground to prevent unwanted access from below.
- e.) The hen house must provide a minimum of two (2) square feet per chicken.
- f.) The hen house must be located upon a permeable surface that prevents waste runoff.
- g.) The fencing of the run must be surrounded on the sides and the top and adequately contain the chicken run.

- h.) The run must be kept clean and sanitary at all times; manure must be composted in enclosed bins, and
- i.) All enclosures must be so constructed or repaired as to prevent predators or rodents from being harbored.

(12) All chicken hens must be fed subject to the requirements of Chapter 8.36.080 and feed must be stored securely.

(13) All chicken hens must be confined within the coop from sunset to sunrise.

(14) Notwithstanding the terms of this ordinance, private restrictions on the use of property shall remain enforceable and take precedence over this ordinance. Private restrictions include but are not limited to deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions, neighborhood association by-laws, and covenant deeds. The interpretation and enforcement of the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.

(15) Whoever violates any provision of this section, or any order or regulation made in pursuance thereof, or obstructs or interferes with an execution of such order or willfully or illegally fails to obey such order, shall be guilty of an offense punishable as provided in this Code of Ordinances.

**(16) Attached please find three documents applicable to this Ordinance:**

**(1) Parameters and a Fine and Fee Schedule;**

**(2) Registration Application; and**

**(3) Structural Setback Chart.**

**Section 2.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon its final adoption.

Positive Endorsement

Negative Endorsement (attach reasons)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher M. Rawson      Date  
City Solicitor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher M. Rawson      Date  
City Solicitor

Sponsored by: Councilman Stycos

Referred to Ordinance Committee October 11, 2012

## Chicken Hens in Residential Zones

### Cranston, RI

In accordance with Ordinance No. 00000, the raising of Chicken Hens is permitted within certain parameters. If you are interested in raising chicken hens you will need to take the following steps:

1. You must be able to comply with the regulations set forth in 00000 (attached)
2. Any hen house (coop) may require a Building Permit and be subject to all standard Dimensional Regulations. **You must meet with the Building Official to Determine if a permit will be required before completing the Chicken Hen Registration Application.**
3. Complete the enclosed Chicken Hen Registration Application and pay the Applicable fee. Please note, this registration is valid May 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> and must be renewed annually.
4. Upon completion of the Registration Application, the owner will be provided with a Registration Certificate.

### FINE AND FEE SCHEDULE

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fee / Fine</u>
<u>Chicken Hens</u>	
Registration fee Per house	\$25.00
Renewal fee	5.00
<u>Violations</u>	
First offense	\$100.00
Second offense	150.00
Third offense	200.00

**City of Cranston**  
**869 Park Avenue**  
**Cranston, Rhode Island 02910**  
**(401) 461-1000**

## **Chicken Hen Registration Application**

Please complete all items below

New application / Renewal (Circle One)

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Single Family House: Y N (Circle One)

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(If provided we will send renewal reminder via-e-mail only)*

Number of Hens: \_\_\_\_\_ Square Footage of Hen House: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**For New Applications: (To be completed by the Building Official)**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed the Hen House / Coop plans and they DO NOT require a Building Permit

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed the Hen House / Coop plans and a Building Permit IS required.  
Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ has been issued for this project

\_\_\_\_\_  
Building Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Fee Schedule**

Initial Registration Fee: \$25.00

Annual Renewal Fee: 5.00

Check must be made payable to: City of Cranston

If renewing by mail, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

