

**PERMIT APPLICATION FOR
KEEPING OF CHICKENS
Borough of Bellefonte**



(office use only)

Fee: \$50.00 Paid:

Date Received (office): _____

(Check can be made out to: Bellefonte Borough)

STEP 1: PERMIT INFORMATION	
Is this a renewal of an existing or previous permit with the Bellefonte Borough? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
If renewal, what is expiration date of previous/existing permit?	Permit # of previous/existing permit
STEP 2: APPLICANT INFORMATION	
<i>Chickens are only permitted at owner-occupied, one-family dwellings. Applicant must be property owner.</i>	
Property address where chickens are kept:	
Property owner name	
Phone number	Email
STEP 3. INFORMATION ABOUT CHICKENS TO BE KEPT ON PREMISES	
Location of Coop and enclosed outside yard/run	
Size of Coop	Size of enclosed outside yard/run
STEP 4. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND PAYMENT	
Attached scaled diagram indicating location of any coop or enclosed run from adjoining structures and property lines. <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Permit/renewal fee of \$50 submitted for a three-year permit. Permit expires on last day of month it was issued. Check made out to: Bellefonte Borough <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Certification:

I hereby make application for a Zoning Permit under the provisions of the Borough Zoning Ordinance. In this application and in signing the same, I state that I am conversant with the Ordinance Article II, § 193 governing the keeping of chickens on my property. I also certify that the owner of the subject premises has been fully informed of the activities proposed herein and that said owner is in full agreement with this proposal. To the best of my knowledge, the above facts are true and understand that in the event of falsification, I can be subject to a fine or other legal sanction.

Signature of Applicant	Date
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ARTICLE II
Chickens
[Adopted 6-4-2018 by Ord. No. 060418-01]

§ 193-7. Keeping of chickens.

The keeping of chicken hens is permitted at owner-occupied one-family dwellings provided all of the following conditions are met:

- A. No more than four chicken hens shall be kept per one-family dwelling.
- B. No person shall keep a rooster in the Borough.
- C. All chicken hens shall be housed in a roofed coop that is secure and enclosed in a way that contains the chickens. Coops may be mobile as long as their placement is in accordance with all designated setbacks.
- D. The coop shall not be within 30 feet of any main building on an adjacent lot.
- E. The minimum coop size shall be three square feet per chicken. The maximum overall coop size shall not exceed 20 square feet.
- F. An outside run is permitted when attached to the coop.
- G. If an outside run is provided, it shall be no bigger than 10 square feet per chicken and shall be enclosed in a way that contains the chickens. Runs may be mobile as long as their placement is in accordance with all designated setbacks.
- H. The outside run shall not be within 30 feet of any main building on an adjacent lot.
- I. All coops and runs are subject to setbacks for accessory structures.
- J. All coops and runs shall be screened from the view at ground level from adjacent lots by using fencing, landscaping, or a combination thereof.
- K. A zoning permit shall be required for keeping chicken hens, coops, and outside runs. The fee shall be established by resolution of Borough Council and updated from time to time. The permit shall be for a three-year period and renewable, provided that three or more violations have not occurred during the permit period.

§ 193-8. Chickens at large prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or owners of any chickens to allow the same to run at large upon any of the common thoroughfares, sidewalks, passageways, play areas, parks, streets, alleys, or public highways or any place where people congregate or walk, or upon any public or private property without an approved coop and run in the Borough. Any chicken not contained within an approved coop or run shall be deemed "at large."

§ 193-9. Sanitary requirements.

All owner or owners of chickens within the limits of the municipality are hereby required to house the same at all times under sanitary conditions so that the keeping of chickens shall not become either a public or private nuisance. The following provisions apply:

- A. All chicken feces accumulated on private property shall be removed by using the approved sanitary method of double-bagging and placement in the trash for collection, unless composted as provided for in § 193-10 below.
- B. Chicken feces on private property shall not be allowed to accumulate to the degree that they become a public health nuisance or hazard. In cases where chicken feces do accumulate on private property, the Nuisance Code Enforcement Officer or his or her designee may conduct an investigation, after which the accumulation may be declared a public health hazard or nuisance and the owner shall be ordered to remove and dispose of the accumulated feces in an approved manner. The order to remove such accumulated feces shall be given personally to the owner or shall be sent by registered mail, and the owner shall be given a period of 48 hours from the date and time of receipt of the order to clean the property and remove the accumulated feces.

§ 193-10. Composting.

It shall be unlawful for any person to spread or cause to be spread or deposited upon any ground or premises within the Borough any chicken manure. However, chicken manure may be composted on the property where the chickens are housed and the composted material then applied to gardens, yards, or other yards with written permission.

§ 193-11. Slaughtering prohibited.

No person shall slaughter any chicken in the Borough.

§ 193-12. Proper storage of feed.

All feed, water and other items associated with the keeping of chickens shall be protected in a way that prevents infestation by rats, mice, or other rodents or vectors. Failure to keep all feed, water and other items associated with the keeping of chickens in a clean and sanitary condition constitutes a violation of this article.

§ 193-13. Violations and penalties.

Any owner or owners of any chicken or chickens kept within the limits of this municipality violating any of the provisions of this article shall, upon conviction thereof before the District Magistrate, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$50 per day nor more than \$600 per day and costs of prosecution at the discretion of said Magistrate and, in default of payment of such fine and costs, shall be committed to the county jail for not more than five days. In addition, three or more violations shall be grounds for terminating the zoning permit and the keeping of chickens. Failure to pay fines and/or costs of prosecution will result in termination of the zoning permit for keeping chickens. For each day a violation exists, a new citation or fine may be issued. This penalty for violation of provisions on chickens shall take precedence over § 193-6, Enforcement; violations and penalty.