

# Backyard Chicken Keeping License

## Application Update

On June 23, 2025, the City Council approved Ordinance #O-25-12 which allows keeping of backyard chickens, subject to certain restrictions, licensing and permitting requirements. The City Council established a limit of seventy-five (75) backyard chicken keeping licenses with a sixty (60) day application period for residents to apply for a license.

The Building & Development Department will begin accepting completed applications at City Hall beginning **Monday August 18, 2025**, and will close **Friday October 17, 2025**. Links to the application form, application process handout and Ordinance #O-25-12 can be found on the City of Prospect Heights web site under the Permits & Licenses Section.

Applications can be delivered in person during business hours (8:30-5, M-F), placed in the drop box outside of city hall or by U. S. Mail. Emailed applications will not be accepted.

Building & Development Department  
8 N. Elmhurst Road  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
Attn: Chicken Keeping License Application

The application process requires the submission of the following along with payment of an initial license fee of \$90.00.

- Applicants must submit a copy of the plat of survey for their property with dimensional drawings of all structures on the property. This should include the location of proposed chicken coop/run structure
- A completed Backyard Chicken Keeping Application
- Proof of registration with the Illinois Department of Agriculture Livestock Premise
- A completed Building Permit (which is required for the coop/run accessory structure)

Upon issuance of the building permit and installation of the chicken coop, a final inspection will be required to demonstrate that all applicable requirements are met. Upon successfully meeting the requirements the City will issue a license for calendar year 2026.

### **General Regulations**

- Up to 20 chicken hens, domesticated ducks and quail allowed in aggregate.
- Roosters are prohibited
- Chicken coop shall be in rear yard and meet all setbacks
- Backyard Chicken Keeping Licenses are renewable annually.