

ORDINANCE 215
AN ORDINANCE REGULATING CHICKENS AND REPEALING INCONSISTENT
ORDINANCES

Section 1. Chickens Limited

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or harbor more than 6 chickens on any premise within the City limits unless the property is located in an agricultural or rural zoning district. The keeping of roosters is prohibited.

Section 2. Confinement

Every person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens must keep them confined on the premises at all times in a chicken coop or chicken run while in the City. Any coop or run shall be screened from view with a solid fence or landscaped buffer with a minimum height of 4 feet. Chickens are not allowed to be located in any part of the home and/or garage.

Section 3. Chicken Coops and Chicken Runs

- A. Any chicken coop or run fencing must be consistent with building and zoning codes.
- B. All chicken coops and runs must be located within the rear yard and shall be set back at least 25 feet from any residential structure on any adjacent lot.
- C. All chicken coops must be a minimum of 4 square feet per chicken in size, must not exceed 10 square feet per chicken in size and must not exceed 6 feet in total height.
- D. Fenced in chicken runs must not exceed 20 square feet per chicken and fencing must not exceed 6 feet in total height. Chicken runs may be enclosed with wood and/or woven wire materials, and may allow chickens to contact the ground.
- E. Chicken coops must either be elevated a minimum of 12 inches and a maximum of 24 inches above the ground; or the coop floor, foundation and footings must be constructed using rodent resistant construction.
- F. Chicken grains and feed must be stored in rodent proof containers and chicken manure shall not be placed in yard compost piles.

Section 4. Condition and Inspections

No person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens shall permit the premises where the hen chickens are kept to be or remain in an unhealthy, unsanitary or noxious condition or to permit the premises to be in such condition that noxious odors are carried to adjacent public or private property. Any chicken coop and chicken run authorized under this chapter may be inspected at any reasonable time by the City animal control officer or other agent of the City, and such officer or agent shall make the determination as to whether or not an unhealthy, unsanitary or noxious condition exists.

Section 5. Violations

Any person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens in contrary to any section of this ordinance shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

Section 6. Repeal

All ordinances and provisions of any ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 7. Effective Date

This ordinance shall be in force upon passage and publication.

Adopted by the Bird Island City Council this 9th day of May, 2016.

Mayor Doug Erickson

Attest: Deb Lingl, Administrator