

City of Sidney
 PO Box 79
 Sidney, NE 69162

OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Received: _____
By: _____
Application #: _____
Code 403-Animal Control

CHICKEN COOP PERMIT APPLICATION

Applicant: Property Owner Tenant

Project Address: _____

Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Homeowner: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Zoning District:	Property Size:	Is property fenced? Yes No (If NO, a Fence Permit will be required)	
Number of Chickens:	Dimensions of Coop: ft. by ft.	Total square footage:	sq. ft.
Type of Construction:	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Application Fee: _____	

DISCLOSURE: By signing below, I am acknowledging that I have included ALL applicable information required on the plan in order to be considered "complete and ready for review." If it is discovered that required information is not included on the plans or I have not provided some required information, I understand that the above referenced project may be deemed "not ready for review" and may require additional staff time or may be rejected. Additionally, I understand that the City of Sidney reserves the right to request additional information as necessary.

Owner/Agent Signature: _____ Date: _____

APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE A SITE PLAN SHOWING THE PROPOSED LOCATION OF THE COOP AND THE DIMENSIONS FROM THE SIDE AND REAR PROPERTY LINES.

ORDINANCE 1885

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART 6 – GENERAL OFFENSES CODE; CHAPTER 618 – ANIMALS TO ADD A NEW SECTION 618.06 – BACKYARD CHICKENS IN NON-AGRICULTURAL & RURAL ZONES; OF THE CITY OF SIDNEY, CHEYENNE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Sidney, Nebraska.

Section One: That Chapter 618 - Animals, Section 618.06 -Backyard Chickens in Non-Agricultural & Rural Zones shall read as follows:

618.06 BACKYARD CHICKENS IN NON-AGRICULTURAL & RURAL ZONES

(a) Purpose

To allow the limited keeping of backyard chickens (hens only) in select non-agricultural zones for personal, non-commercial purposes.

(b) Eligible Zones

Backyard chickens are allowed only in the following zoning districts:

- (1) R-1 -Single-Family Residential
- (2) R-2 – Low-Density Multi-Family Residential
- (3) C-2 – Neighborhood Commercial/Residential

Chickens are prohibited in all other zones not listed here or in Section 618.04.

(c) Permit Requirements

- (1) A Backyard Chicken Permit must be obtained from the City before acquiring chickens.
- (2) Annual fee: See Fee Schedule.
- (3) Permits are non-transferable between people or properties.
- (4) Tenants must provide written approval from the property owner.

(d) Chicken Limits & Restrictions

- (1) Maximum of six (6) hens per property.
- (2) Roosters are prohibited.
- (3) No slaughtering of chickens is permitted outdoors.

(e) Coop & Enclosure Requirements

- (1) Chickens must be kept in a secure coop and run, located in the rear yard only.
- (2) Rear yard must be enclosed by a fence no greater than six (6) feet in height.
- (3) Minimum space requirements per chicken:
 - Coop: 4 sq. ft. per chicken
 - Run: 10 sq. ft. per chicken
- (4) Maximum coop size:
 - 120 sq. ft. total area
 - 8 ft. maximum height
- (5) Setbacks:
 - 10 ft. from side property lines
 - 10 ft. from rear property line

(f) Health & Sanitation

- (1) Chicken feed must be stored in sealed, rodent-proof containers.
- (2) Coops and runs must be kept clean, sanitary, and free of odor.
- (3) All structures must prevent rodent harborage and escape of chickens.

(g) Inspections & Enforcement (Revised and Consolidated)

(1) Inspection Authority

By obtaining a Backyard Chicken Permit, the owner or keeper grants consent for reasonable inspections by City Code Enforcement, Animal Control, or Police to verify compliance. Inspections may occur in response to complaints, routine checks, or observed violations.

(2) Violations and Administrative Actions

Violations of this Section may result in:

- A. Written warnings or citations;
- B. Fines and administrative fees;
- C. Orders requiring correction of unsafe, unsanitary, or non-compliant conditions;
- D. Temporary or permanent revocation of the Backyard Chicken Permit;
- E. Mandatory removal of chickens from the property

Three (3) documented violations within twelve (12) months shall result in automatic permit revocation and required removal of all chickens.

(3) Seizure and Disposal of Chickens At Large or Abandoned

The City shall have the authority to seize, impound, and dispose of any chicken(s) found at large, running loose, or abandoned within the City's corporate limits.

Such seizure, impoundment, or disposal does not require notice to any owner or keeper, nor any attempt to locate the owner prior to disposition.

Chickens seized under this subsection may be re-homed, adopted, sold, transferred, or humanely euthanized, at the discretion of the City, Animal Control, or its contracted sheltering agency.

(4) Surrendered Chickens and Impounded for Probable Cause

The City may seize, impound, or accept surrender of chickens under any of the following circumstances:

- A. Owner Surrender – Chickens voluntarily relinquished to the City.
- B. Probable Cause of violations, including but not limited to:
 - a. abandonment or neglect;
 - b. keeping more than six (6) chickens;
 - c. possession of roosters;
 - d. unsanitary or unsafe conditions;
 - e. failure to comply with coop, setback, or enclosure rules;
 - f. expired or invalid chicken permit;
 - g. repeated nuisance behavior or escapes.
- C. Repeated Violations – Three (3) or more warnings or citations within twelve (12) consecutive months.

(5) Permit Revocation and Future Permit Restrictions

Upon revocation of a Backyard Chicken Permit, a property owner or keeper may be prohibited from obtaining a new permit for up to three (3) years, at the City's discretion.

(6) Cumulative Remedies

The remedies described in this Section are cumulative and may be used in combination with any other enforcement actions or legal remedies available to the City.

(h) No Effect on Agricultural Zones

Nothing in this Section modifies or replaces Section 618. Properties in A, AR, or R1a zones remain governed solely by that section.

Section 2: That all other sections of Chapter 618 shall remain in effect; and that Ordinances in direct conflict herewith are repealed.

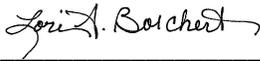
Section 3: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage, approval and publication or posting as required by law.

Passed and approved this 2 day of December 2025.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk