## **BACKYARD CHICKENS**

Regulations and Requirements

Winnebago Co. Zoning Code: Chapter 23.8-444



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The Wave of the Future

**BACKYARD CHICKENS:** A place where chickens are kept for the use and enjoyment of those living on the premises, but not for commercial purposes. The sale of a chicken as part of a 4-H or similar educational project shall not be considered a commercial purpose.

**ALLOWANCES:** No more than four (4) chickens may be kept.

## PROHIBITED:

- Roosters are prohibited.
- The slaughter of chickens on the premises is prohibited.

## **ENCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Chickens must be provided with a covered enclosure.
- Chickens must be kept in the covered enclosure or a fenced enclosure at all times.

(Fencing may require a zoning permit. See the Fence handout or contact zoning staff.)

**SETBACK REQUIREMENTS:** The enclosure housing chickens shall be at least 25 feet from any residential structure on an adjacent lot.

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:** The owner, operator, or tenant shall register the premise where chickens are kept with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection as required by state law and shall maintain such registration for so long as many be required.

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs Services/PremisesRegistration.aspx

## **ADDITIONAL NOTES:** A zoning permit is not required.

- Backyard chickens are not allowed in all zoning districts.
  - o Allowed in these districts: A-1, A-2, R-1, R-2, R-3, R-8, I-1, I-2.
  - Not allowed in these districts: R-4, B-1, B-2, B-3, M-1

To find the zoning district for your property, use the GIS County Zoning Viewer on the Winnebago County website:

https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/planning-and-zoning/gis

