

# Chicken Hens in Residential Zones Barrington, RI

In accordance with Ordinance No. 2011-2, the raising of Chicken Hens is permitted within certain parameters. If you are interested in raising chicken hens you will need to take the following steps:

1. You must be able to comply with the regulations set forth in 2011-2 (attached)
2. Any hen house (coop) may require a Building Permit and be subject to all standard Dimensional Regulations. **You must meet with the Building Official to determine if a permit will be required before completing the Chicken Hen Registration Application.**
3. Complete the enclosed Chicken Hen Registration Application and pay the applicable fee: *Please note, this registration is valid May 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> and must be renewed annually.*
4. Upon completion of the Registration Application, the owner will be provided with a Registration Certificate

## CHAPTER A225 FINE AND FEE SCHEDULE

Type		Fee/Fine	Code Section (if applicable)
<b>Chicken Hens</b>			67-19
	Registration fee	Per house	\$25.00
		Renewal	\$ 5.00
<b>Violations</b>			
	First offense		\$50.00
	Second offense		\$75.00
	Third offense		\$100.00

**Town of Barrington  
283 County Road  
Barrington, RI 02806  
(401) 247-1900**

# **Chicken Hen Registration Application**

Please complete all items below

New application/Renewal *(Circle One)*

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Single Family House: Y N *(Circle One)*

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(If provided we will send renewal reminder via-e-mail only)*

Number of Hens: \_\_\_\_\_ Square Footage of Hen House: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Signature Date

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**For New Applications: *(To be completed by the Building Official)***

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed the Hen House/Coop plans and they DO NOT require a Building Permit

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed the Hen House/Coop plans and a Building Permit IS required. Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ has been issued for this project

\_\_\_\_\_  
Building Official Date

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## **Fee Schedule**

Initial Registration Fee: \$25.00

Annual Renewal Fee: \$ 5.00

Check must be made payable to: **Town of Barrington**

If renewing by mail, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope so that we may send you your certificate.

*In accordance with Code section 67-19 and Chapter A225 Fine and Fee Schedule as amended May 9, 2011*

**ORDINANCE NO. 2011-2**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 67  
OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON**

The Town Council of Barrington hereby ordains that the Code of the Town of Barrington be amended as follows:

**CHAPTER 67. ANIMALS**

**§67-1. Definitions**

\* \* \*

**HOUSE LOT**

A "House Lot" shall mean one or more parcels of land which are contiguous and are under the same ownership according to the Tax Assessor's records and which are zoned residential or are residential as a legal non-conforming use pursuant to the zoning ordinance.

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**§67-19. Maximum Chicken Hens Permitted.**

- (1) The owner of any House Lot containing at least one (1) dwelling may keep or permit to be kept on the House Lot no more than six (6) chicken hens.
- (2) Subsection (1) of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the raising and/or keeping of roosters.
- (3) All chicken hens must be provided with both a hen house (coop) and a fenced outdoor enclosure, subject to the following provisions:
  - a) The hen house must be covered, predator resistant and well-ventilated; it shall be no more than eight (8) feet high, no more than 64 sq. ft.
  - b) The fence made of chicken wire or a stronger substance shall be no more than six (6) feet in height;
  - c) The hen house must provide a minimum of two (2) square feet per chicken hen;
  - d) The hen house must be kept clean, dry, and sanitary at all times;
  - e) The hen house must be located upon a permeable surface that prevents waste run-off;
  - f) The fenced enclosure must adequately contain the chicken hens at all times;
  - g) The fenced enclosure must be kept clean and sanitary at all times;

- h) The hen house must provide the chicken hens with adequate protection from the elements and inclement weather and provide for the chicken hens good health and prevent any unnecessary or unjustified suffering;
  - i) The hen house shall not be built onto any shared fence;
  - j) The setbacks for the hen house and enclosed area shall be those for the principal dwelling located on the House Lot *(see table below)*.
- (4) No chicken hens may be kept or raised within the dwelling.
- (5) The owner of the hen(s) must be a resident of the dwelling located on the House Lot.
- (6) The raising of chicken hens shall be restricted to back yards or side yards; chicken hens shall not be permitted, at any time, on the part of the property directly abutting a main road.
- (7) The keeping of chicken hens pursuant to this section shall be primarily for the purpose of raising chicken hens and collecting the eggs produced thereof; this section shall not be construed to allow for the commercial slaughter and sale of any chicken hens for any purpose.
- (8) Necessary euthanasia of chicken hens shall be performed by a veterinarian licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island.
- (9) This section shall be subject to the nuisance provisions of Section 67-8.
- (10) The Town Manager, on the advice of the animal control officer, shall promulgate a registration process as a condition precedent to the construction of hen houses and keeping of chicken hens. Such registration shall include:
- a) Inspection and approval of the construction plans by the Building Official
  - b) Payment of a fee to be set by the Town Council each year.

**Dimensional Requirements**

	<b>R-40</b>	<b>R-25</b>	<b>R-10</b>	<b>NB</b>
Minimum depth rear yard	30 feet	25 feet	20 feet	20 feet
Minimum width side yards	18 feet or 10% of the frontage (the greater of)	14 feet or 10% of the frontage (the greater of)	9 feet or 10% of the frontage (the greater of)	15 feet or 10% of the frontage (the greater of)
Max building lot coverage	15%	20%	25%	30%