



**DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
110 E. Sycamore St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sycamore, IL 60178  
(815) 895-7188 [www.dekalbcounty.org](http://www.dekalbcounty.org)

## Non-Commercial Chicken License Application

The license shall authorize the keeping of chickens only under the following conditions:

1. \$20 annual fee; License is valid for 1 year, and renewed automatically for subsequent year upon fee payment
2. License is for any residential or agricultural zoned property that is two (2) acres or less
3. No roosters; hens only
4. Property must be within 1,000 feet of a municipality that allows for the keeping of hens
5. The maximum number of chickens allowed is determined by the maximum number allowed by the nearest municipality that allows for the keeping of hens
6. Chickens must be kept in a way so as not to cause a nuisance as defined in Appendix A; Article 2 of this Code as may be made from time to time
7. Applicants residing in apartments, condominiums, townhouses, or other similar attached dwellings are not eligible
8. Only the owner of an eligible property may submit the application
9. The following setbacks must be met for a coop/yard:
  - a. Must be at least 50 ft from any residence on a neighboring lot
  - b. Cannot be in front yard of lot
  - c. Must meet accessory building standards & setback requirements:
    - i. Must be in rear yard; unless a waiver is granted from the CD Director allowing for a side yard location
    - ii. Cannot be in a platted easement
    - iii. Coops over 120 sq ft shall be required to submit an accessory structure application and shall incur an additional fee, plan review and oversight from the County Building Inspector
    - iv. Residential Zoning Districts: Five (5) ft off side and rear property lines
    - v. Agricultural Districts: 20 feet off side and rear property lines
10. License shall not run with the land, thus a new land owner must apply for and receive license
11. All coops and yards shall be subject to inspection at all reasonable times by officials and agents of the County
12. Must apply for and receive approval of site verification form via DeKalb County Health Department T:815-758-6673

## What Happens Next?

Your application and all submittals may be dropped off at the DeKalb County Community Development Department. A Zoning Review of the application, followed by a Site Inspection, will then be conducted. You are required to indicate the location of the proposed coop and fencing on the property; stakes, flags, spray paint, or any other marking is sufficient (if a Site Development Permit Application is required in conjunction with the application, the site inspection will not occur until after that application has been processed). For coops of 120 sq ft or less, you will be contacted by staff once the License is ready; you will be given a copy of the approved License application, and you may begin work. You will need to call for a final inspection within six (6) months of the License approval, wherein staff will verify that the coop and yard have been installed as shown in the approved application. For coops of greater than 120 sq ft, the Building Inspector will review your Accessory Structure Permit application. Depending on the complexity of your project, turnaround time will typically take between one (1) to three (3) weeks. Thoroughness and attention to detail in your application and submittals will help expedite the process. The Department will contact you when the License is ready. You will receive a copy of the approved license application, a building permit placard, and a plan review relating to your specific project, and any additional fees will be collected at this time. You may not begin work until the permit is issued; doing so may incur fines. You should carefully read the plan review for important information regarding your project. Then, it is your responsibility to call for all required inspections as outlined in your permit package, if required.



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## NON-COMMERCIAL CHICKEN LICENSE APPLICATION

### Property Owner's Information

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner(s) Name (as depicted on current property deed):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parcel ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel's Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, IL Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ T: \_\_\_\_\_

List the Incorporated Community within 1,000 feet of the property that allows permits for keeping of hens:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds allowed by the Community: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach a copy of the Site Verification Form issued by the DeKalb County Health Department.

I (We) the undersigned understand the above provisions as stated for the privilege of chicken keeping in DeKalb County, and agree to comply with the ordinances and conditions of this license.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner(s) Signature

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fee (cash, check, credit) \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt No. \_\_\_\_\_

Zoning District \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Site Development Permit (Y / N)

Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Administrative Review:  Approved  Denied  Incomplete

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## SITE PLAN

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED ON THE SITE PLAN BELOW (OR ON AN OFFICAL PLAT OF SURVEY):**

1. Lot size and dimensions
2. Name and location of all roads abutting property.
3. Structures on the property (existing and proposed).
4. Front, side, and rear yard setbacks (Distance between the lot line and structures).
5. Distance in feet between all structures on the lot.
6. Drive aisles and parking areas (existing and proposed).
7. Please indicate north by an arrow.

STAKE OUT DATE \_\_\_\_\_