

HOUSEHOLD HENS



DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND BUILDING

HENS IN PARKSVILLE

The City of Parksville permits residents of single family properties to keep up to 4 egg-laying hens, subject to the following:

- The area of the property must be larger than 1,000 square metres;
- All hens must be older than 6 months;
- No roosters are permitted;
- The sale of manure, eggs or other products are not permitted;
- Slaughtering or butchering hens on the property is not permitted;
- Chickens must be given adequate food and shelter. The wellbeing of animals must be maintained in compliance with the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*. Enforcement of this act is the responsibility of the BCSPCA;
- Hens must be housed in a separate building (see inside for details);
- A household hen keeping registration form must be completed prior to bringing any hens onto the property.

WHY KEEP HENS?

- Opportunity to provide your own food
- Ability to obtain eggs from humanely -raised chickens
- Local food production contributes to a more self-reliant and resilient area
- Opportunity to make use of compostable material as feed for the hens
- Reduction in household carbon footprint by producing food at home
- Manure produced by the chickens can provide a good source of nitrogen-rich fertilizer for use in gardens
- Backyard egg production is more sustainable than large-scale egg production

HEN HOUSE CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

- The coop must be roofed and secured to prevent access by other animals and to prevent escape of the hens;
- The structure shall be 2 metres or less in height with 10 square metres or less floor area; a minimum of 1.5 square metres per hen must be provided (at least 6 square metres for 4 hens);
- The coop shall be located at the rear of the principal residence with a minimum 3 metre separation from the closest point to the residence;
- Does not require a building permit.

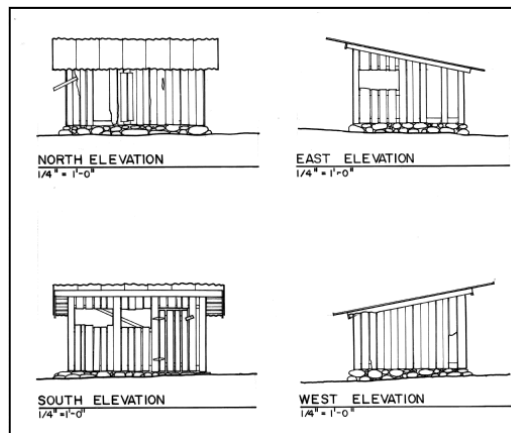


Photo Captions

Cover photo: Nicole Rathmayr ([https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hen_Chicken_\(209697347\).jpeg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hen_Chicken_(209697347).jpeg)), "Hen Chicken (209697347)", <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/legalcode>

Inner photo (top): Kolfor (Wikimedia) (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:-2019-05-18_Chicken_coop,_Trimingham.JPG), <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode>

Inner photo (middle): Kolfor (Wikimedia) (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:-2019-05-25_Inside_a_chicken_coop,_Trimingham.JPG), <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode>

Inner photo (bottom): Public domain.



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND BUILDING

100 JENSEN AVENUE EAST
PO BOX 1390
PARKSVILLE, BC V9P 2H3

250 954-3061