

## Section 90.03 Proposed Modification to Animal Control Regulations

### *Draft Language for Regulation of Chickens in Residential Districts*

A person may keep chickens in residential districts for non-commercial purposes within the corporate limits of the city, under the following conditions:

- (a) Hens only shall be allowed. No roosters shall be allowed.
- (b) The chickens shall be kept in a stationary or mobile coop with a chicken run. The following requirements shall be met:
  1. Neither the coop nor run shall be located between the rear of the primary structure and the front lot line.
  2. No chicken coop or run shall be closer than 5 feet from the side property line and 3 feet from the rear property line.
  3. Two coops shall be allowed on each non-agriculturally zoned property.
  4. Chicken coops and chicken runs shall be maintained and shall be regularly cleaned to control dust, odor, and waste and not constitute a safety hazard or health problem to surrounding properties.
  5. The chicken coop shall provide a minimum of 1 square foot of area per chicken. The minimum size for the chicken run shall be 12 square feet per chicken. The maximum height of the coop and chicken run fencing shall be no more than 12 feet at the highest point.
  6. On residential properties under one acre, the coop and run shall be screened from neighboring properties and right of way by a fence or shrub of at least four feet in height. An alternative means of screening can be approved by Code Enforcement. Fencing used for screening purposes must be constructed of materials permitted by City Code Section 157.
  7. The chicken enclosure shall be secure to prevent the entry of rodents and predators and shall effectively contain and protect the chickens.
  8. Each coop shall be less than 200 square feet in size.
- (c) Each person shall be limited to keeping, harboring, or allowing one chicken per 600 square feet of the parcel.
- (d) No person shall permit chickens to run at large.
- (e) All persons keeping chickens on residential properties prior to the adoption of this ordinance shall register with the City of New Haven within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this ordinance. Persons who fail to register within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this ordinance will be required to comply with the requirements of this ordinance.
- (f) Many homeowner association by-laws do not allow domestic livestock or poultry of any kind. Whenever a private covenant, contract, commitment, agreement, or other similar private land use restriction imposes a greater restriction or a higher standard that is required by a provision of this code, the more restrictive provisions shall apply.