



# TOWN OF CLINTON

*Board of Health*

Town Hall

242 Church Street

Clinton, Massachusetts 01510

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## Rules and Regulations for Keeping Live Chickens and Fowl.

### LICENSE REQUIREMENTS:

No person shall keep fowl within the limits of the Town of Clinton, unless issued a license by the Board of Health in accordance with the Regulations herein.

1. Each license granted shall contain a statement of the number and type of fowl licensed (maximum of Ten (10) fowl) and the conditions of the license.
1. All information required in the license shall be provided by the applicant.
2. The applicant must submit to the Building Inspector for approval a plan of the proposed location and type of structure for housing the fowl.
3. The license fee is Fifty (\$50.00) dollars payable upon application.
4. The license is in effect for two (2) years.
5. No license shall be granted for keeping roosters, geese or any other fowl whose type, breed or gender are known to create loud or objectionable noise.
6. License shall only be granted if applicant has demonstrated compliance with all applicable local, state and federal laws.

### DEFINITIONS:

Fowl: Chickens, doves, pigeons, capons, hens, turkeys, pheasants, guinea fowl, ducks, roosters and geese or other fowl.

Person: Individual, partnership, corporation, firm, association or group.

Shelter: A structure for housing small animals or fowl.

Coop: Small structure for housing live fowl.

### RESTRICTIONS:

1. Maximum of Ten (10) fowl.
2. No person shall keep live fowl in any building, a part of which is used as a dwelling, including but not limited to attached garages, breezeways, etc.

### SHELTERS:

1. Location: the shelter shall be located not less than Two Hundred (200) feet from the high watermark of any known source of drinking water supply or any tributary thereof, and not less than Fifty (50) feet from any well.
2. Lot Lines: In addition, all shelters shall be located at least Twenty-five (25) feet from side and rear property lines and at least Forty (40) feet from front property lines.
3. Construction: All shelters shall be constructed to protect from dampness, deterioration and rodents.
4. Floors: Floor surfaces shall be constructed to be readily cleaned.
5. Feed Storage: The owner shall utilize tightly covered and vermin-proof storage for animal feed.
6. Lighting and Ventilation: Each shelter shall have adequate lighting and ventilation to prevent accumulation of odors and moisture.
7. Nuisance Prevention: Adequate measures shall be taken to prevent the presence of rodents, flies, odors and other nuisances. All pesticides must be EPA approved and used in accordance with manufacturer's directions.
8. Manure Storage: The manure storage facility shall be constructed of durable material and be located to facilitate regular removal of manure in order to prevent objectionable conditions. Manure shall be stored not less than Two Hundred (200) feet from the high watermark of any known source of drinking water supply or any tributary thereof, and less than One Hundred (100) feet from any well. In addition, manure storage shall be kept at least Twenty-five (25) feet from side and rear lot lines and at least Forty (40) feet from front property lines and Fifty (50) feet from any dwelling unit.

**COOPS:**

1. Location: All coops shall be located not less than Two hundred (200) feet from the high watermark of any known source of drinking water supply or any tributary thereof, or not less than Fifty (50) feet from any well. In addition, all coops shall be located at least Ten (10) feet from side and rear property lines and at least Forty (40) feet from front property lines.
2. All coops shall be of durable construction. Coops shall be elevated to a height which allows for adequate cleaning and designed to prevent harborage of rodents and insects. Nests shall be movable or otherwise designed to be readily cleaned.
3. Ventilation: All coops shall be ventilated to prevent buildup of odors and moisture.
4. Nuisance prevention: Adequate measures shall be taken to reduce the presence of rodents, flies and other insects and the creation of odors and other nuisances. All pesticides must be EPA approved and used in accordance with manufacturer's directions.
5. Maintenance of Coop Facilities: All coop facilities shall be cleaned regularly and maintained to prevent the build up of manure. Feed stations shall be maintained in sanitary conditions.
6. Manure Storage: The manure storage facility shall be constructed of durable material and located not less than Two Hundred (200) feet from the high watermark of any known source of drinking water supply or any tributary thereof, and not less than One hundred (100) feet from any well. In addition, manure storage shall be located at least Twenty-five (25) feet from side and rear property lines and at least Forty (40) feet from front property lines.
7. Restrictions to Premises: All chickens and live fowl except pigeons and doves shall be kept in an approved building, run or enclosure. They shall not be permitted to roam unrestricted outside the building, run or enclosure.

**APPEAL OF LICENSE RENEWAL or DENIAL OF LICENSE.**

Any person who has been denied a license or license renewal may request a hearing before the Board of Health by submitting a written request within Ten (10) days of the denial. The Board of Health shall schedule a hearing within Fourteen (14) days of receipt of the request.

**VARIANCE:**

The Board of Health may grant a variance to these regulations where they have determined applicable and that a hardship or detriment to the public good will not occur.

**SUSPENSION/REVOCAION LICENSE:**

A LICENSE GRANTED UNDER THESE REGULATIONS MAY BE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED BY THE Board of Health provided a hearing has been held Seven (7) days after the Notice of suspension or revocation., except in the case of emergency.

**EMERGENCY:**

If the Board of Health determines an emergency exists, the Board may without prior notice or hearing immediately revoke or suspend the license.

**Emergency definitions:**

1. Cruel treatment of animals
2. Using animals for illegal purposes i.e. fighting
3. Outbreak of communicable animal disease
4. Unsanitary conditions which create a health hazard.
5. Failure to maintain sufficient water and feed stations.

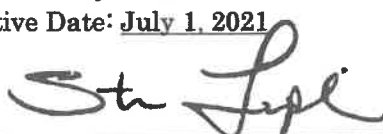
**PENALTIES**

Any person who violates any provision of these Regulations shall be subject to a fine of not more than One thousand (\$1,000. 00). Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offence.

**SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of these Regulations is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such provisions and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof. The provisions of these Rules and Regulations are hereby declared severable.

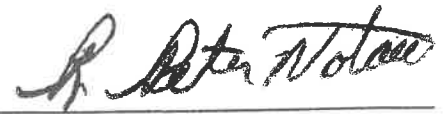
**Effective Date: July 1, 2021**



Steve Lipka, Chair



Shawn M. Moran, Clerk



R. Peter Notaro