

<b>Town of Jarratt Administrative – Keeping of Poultry</b>			
<b>SECTION: Keeping of Poultry</b>		<b>Ordinance #: 2021-0713</b>	
<b>POLICY: Livestock and Poultry in town limits</b>			
<b>DATE ADOPTED: 7-13-2021</b>	<b>REVISED DATE:</b>	<b>COVERAGE: Poultry</b>	<b>PAGE #: Page _1_ of _2_</b>

**WHEREAS**, public interest has increased in the keeping of chickens/ducks in recent months; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Town of Jarratt has determined that the keeping of chickens/ducks should be allowed as an accessory use to a residential dwelling in the R-1, and R-2 Zoning Districts; and

**WHEREAS**, to protect the health, safety and welfare of Town residents, the Council of the Town of Jarratt has determined that the Zoning Code should be amended to provide for the keeping of chickens/ducks and for the associated chicken coop and run as an accessory facility in the R-1 and R-2 Zoning Districts.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Jarratt of Greensville and Sussex County, Virginia, that:

**Section 1.** A chicken/duck coop and run for the keeping of chickens for personal use and enjoyment shall be permitted as an accessory facility. Chicken/duck coops and runs are subject to the following requirements:

- A. No person shall begin to erect, alter, relocate, or expand a coop without first obtaining a permit from the Jarratt Zoning Administrator. The issuance of a zoning permit shall not obviate the necessity for compliance with all other Town ordinances. Renters that wish to keep chickens/ducks on property they are renting must include written permission from the property owner or landlord that explicitly states that the renter has permission to own chickens on the subject property. Such written permission shall be supplied to the Town as part of the permit application. The fee for said permit will accompany the application and be in the amount of \$5.00.
- B. Upon approval from the Jarratt Zoning Administrator for erection of a chicken/duck coop, the Town shall issue a Certificate of Approval.
- C. All chickens/ducks must be kept in a coop, chicken run, or fenced area at all times.
- D. The coop shall be solid, vermin and predator proof and shall provide at least 2 square feet per pound of body weight of area per chicken/duck.
- E. Any chicken/duck run shall be adequately fenced to contain the chickens/ducks on the property and to prevent predators from gaining access to the run. The run shall provide at least 10 square feet of run space per chicken/duck.
- F. Coops shall be enclosed on all sides and shall have a roof and doors. Access doors must be able to be shut and locked at night. Openings, windows, and vents must be covered with vermin/predator and bird-proof wire of ½ inch hardware cloth.
- G. Coops and runs shall be designed to provide safe and healthy living conditions for the chickens/ducks and shall provide shade in the warm weather, suitable protection from inclement weather, and adequate ventilation.

- H. Coops and runs shall be kept in good repair and must be capable of being maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, free of vermin and obnoxious odors.
- I. Coops and runs must reasonably prevent the chickens from running at large. The chicken run shall be attached to the coop.
- J. Coops and runs shall be open at all times for inspection by the Jarratt Zoning Administrator.

**Section 2.** The keeping of chickens/ducks for personal use and enjoyment only shall be allowed as an accessory use by permit. Any person wishing to engage in the keeping of chickens/ducks shall submit an application to the Jarratt Zoning Administrator for review and approval, with the fee for same to be established. Approval shall be subject to the following standards:

- A. No chickens/ducks shall be kept in apartments.
- B. Any building used for the keeping or raising of chickens/ducks shall be situated in the rear yard of a dwelling only, not less than 50 feet from any street, and not less than 10 feet from any lot line.
- C. Storage of manure, odor or dust producing substances shall be located at least 10 feet from lot line.
- D. No person shall keep a rooster.
- E. Feed and water: Chickens/ducks shall be provided with access to feed and clean water at all times. All feed, water, and other such items associated with the keeping of chickens shall be properly stored in a clean and sanitary manner to prevent the infestation of rats, mice, or other rodents.
- F. Nuisance: No person shall keep or harbor chickens/ducks in the Town in a manner that creates an offensive odor, excessive noise, or unsanitary conditions which disturb neighboring residences or threatens public health.
- G. Veterinary Care: All chickens/ducks shall be afforded veterinary care if they are known or suspected to be sick or injured.
- H. Composting: Chicken/duck manure may be composted only on the property where the chickens are housed with the composted material then applied to the property's garden or yard.
- I. The selling of chickens/ducks or chicken/duck produces, including eggs, is prohibited.
- J. Slaughtering and butchering of chickens/ducks on residential property in the Town is prohibited.
- K. Violations: Any person found by the Town to be keeping chickens/ducks in such a manner that is a nuisance to neighboring properties, is inhumane treatment of the chickens, or is a violation of any performance standard of this Section, shall be subject to the following:
  - 1. First Step: The person shall be issued a letter of warning by certified letter from the Jarratt Zoning Administrator, requiring the person to remedy the violation within ten (10) days and warning that enforcement action will commence within ten (10) days of the date of the letter if the violation is not remedied.
  - 2. Second Step: If the person fails to remedy the violation within ten (10) days of the letter of warning, the Town will initiate an enforcement action and/or shall have the right to revoke the person's permit authorizing the keeping of chickens on the property.

**Section 3. Severability**

If any of the provisions or terms of this Ordinance shall be held invalid for any reason whatsoever, then, unless such provision or term is material to this Ordinance as to render this Ordinance impracticable to perform, such provision or term shall be deemed severable from the remaining provisions or terms of this Ordinance and shall in no way affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions hereof.

**Section 4. Repealed**

All prior ordinances are hereby repealed in whole or in part to the extent inconsistent herewith.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED into law, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melanie Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Houchins, Clerk

Dana Kinsley

<b>COUNCIL MEMBER</b>	<b>YEA</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Annie Peavy		
Anne Brown		
Brian Harrison		
Dana Kinsley		
Omar Smith		
Ray Young		