

Keeping of Poultry – All Districts

This section allows for the keeping of domestic chickens on a property for the personal use of the residents or for local sale on the lot on which the chickens are kept while at the same time preserving the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhood by not allowing the chickens to be kept in a number or manner that could create a nuisance.

Acreage, chicken, rooster, enclosure, shelter, manure and waste requirements

Acreage	Chickens	Roosters	Enclosure/Shelter/Manure/Waste Setback
0 < 2	6	0	30 ft
2 < 3	12	0	60 ft
3 < 4	12	1	100 ft
4 < 5	18	1	125 ft
5	24	1	150 ft

The following applies to all properties, regardless of acreage.

1. Chickens shall be kept in accordance with all applicable town, state and federal ordinances, regulations and provisions, including but not limited to RSA 644:8, Cruelty to Animals.
2. Chickens shall not be permitted to roam free off the owner's property. Chickens shall be secured in a coop or enclosed shelter during nondaylight hours.
3. Any shelter, enclosure or coop shall have a minimum of three sq ft. per hen. Building permit regulations shall be followed in the construction of any coops or enclosed shelter.
4. All manure not used for composting or fertilizing, (including but not limited to spent feed, litter, waste eggs and dead poultry) shall be properly and promptly removed from the property.

Special exceptions including keeping of other poultry (ducks, turkeys, geese, emus, ostriches, etc.) may be granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment and approved by the Board of Selectmen.