



## RAISIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

5525 Occidental Hwy.

Tecumseh, MI 49286

Phone: 517-423-3162 Fax: 517-423-6732

[www.raisintownship.com](http://www.raisintownship.com)

**Chicken Permit Application**

**Fee: \$50.00**

Please print or type

### Applicant Information:

Name:		Phone #:	
Address of location that chickens will be housed:			
Number of chickens to be kept (Maximum 4 hens - Roosters are not permitted):			
Single-family dwelling _____		Two-family dwelling _____	

### Property Owner Information: (if property is not owner occupied)

Name:		Phone #:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:

**THE FOLLOWING MUST BE ATTACHED:** A description of all structures and enclosures constructed for keeping and housing of chickens; the distance of the location of all structures and enclosures from all adjacent property lines. A drawing with a scale should be attached with this application.

**ALL PERMITS EXPIRE THREE (3) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE.**

**PERMITS ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE AND MAY NOT BE SOLD OR ASSIGNED.**

I UNDERSTAND THE RESTRICTIONS OF ORDINANCE 9.40.7, SECTION A AND AM SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION IN ACCORDANCE AND COMPLIANCE WITH RAISIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE 9.40.7.A.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### For Office Use Only

Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

**9.40.7            Animals, Bees, Livestock, and Fowl – Use, Shelter, and Storage**

Except as provided for in this Section of Ordinance, no animals, bees, livestock or fowls, or structures for the same, shall be permitted as an accessory use in residentially zoned or non-agriculturally zoned areas. This shall not apply to agriculturally zoned areas.

Common household animals shall be permitted as an accessory use in residentially zoned, non-agriculturally zoned or agriculturally zoned areas.

The keeping of chickens (Female - Hens) shall be permitted as an accessory use in a residentially zoned area as outlined in Section 9.40.7.A of this Ordinance.

**9.40.7.A            Keeping of Chickens (Female - Hens)**

1. Any person who keeps chickens in the Township shall obtain a permit from the Township prior to acquiring the chickens and pay a permit fee set by Township Board. This permit shall be kept by the owner and presented upon demand by any Township official or police officer. Permits are non-transferable, site-specific and do not run with the land. Permits issued shall be valid for up to three (3) years and shall expire on the third anniversary date of when the permit was issued. A person who wishes to continue keeping chickens shall obtain a new permit prior to the expiration of the previous permit. Application for a new permit shall be pursuant to the procedures and requirements applicable at the time a person applies for a new permit. Permits shall provide a limited license for the activity, and no vested zoning rights shall arise from said permit issuance.
2. Notwithstanding the issuance of a permit by the Township, private restrictions on the use of property shall remain enforceable and take precedence over a permit. Private restrictions include, but are not limited to, deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions, neighborhood association by-laws and covenant deeds. A permit issued to a person whose property is subject to private restrictions that prohibit the keeping of chickens is void. The interpretation and enforcement of the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.
3. The Township may revoke a permit if a person's chickens become a nuisance, defined as two determined violations as pertaining to the keeping of chickens within a six (6) month period:

- a. Complaints about noise, specifically frequent, ongoing, or long-continued noise that disturbs the comfort of any persons in the vicinity;
  - b. Complaints about odor, specifically foul, noisome, or unpleasant odors that are frequent, ongoing, or long-continued and disturb the comfort of any persons in the vicinity;
  - c. Complaints about vermin, specifically the frequent, ongoing, or long-continued presence of such vermin as (but not limited to) mice, rats, raccoons, and possum;
  - d. Failure to comply with the provisions listed under Keeping of Chickens.
4. The Township may revoke a permit issued to a person convicted of animal cruelty in the State of Michigan.
5. A person who keeps or houses chickens on his or her property shall comply with the following requirements:
- a. Must obtain a permit pursuant to subsection (1) of this Section.
  - b. Keep no more than 4 hen chickens per parcel.
  - c. The principal use of the person's property must be for a single-family dwelling or two-family dwelling in a residentially zoned area.
  - d. No person shall keep a male chicken (rooster) and any other type of fowl or poultry.
  - e. No person shall slaughter any chickens.
  - f. Keeping of chickens shall be for personal use only and not for commercial activities.
  - g. The chickens shall be provided with a covered enclosure and must be kept in the covered enclosure or a fenced enclosure at all times to keep the chickens confined on the owner's property.
  - h. Waste materials (feed, manure, and litter) should be disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner. The materials can be composted or bagged and disposed of in the trash. It is not acceptable to pile waste materials on the property.

- i. Chickens shall not be kept in any location on the property other than in the backyard. For purposes of this section, "backyard" means that portion of a lot enclosed by the property's rear lot line and the side lot lines to the points where the side lot lines intersect with an imaginary line established by the rear of the single-family or two-family structure and extending to the side lot lines.
  - j. All structures and enclosures for the keeping of chickens shall have at a minimum a six (6) foot setback from the backyard lot lines.
  - k. All structures and enclosures for the keeping of chickens shall be constructed and maintained so as to prevent rats, mice, or other rodents or vermin from being harbored underneath or within the walls of the structure or enclosure.
  - l. All feed and other items associated with the keeping of chickens likely to attract rats, mice, or other rodents or vermin shall be secured and protected in sealed containers.
  - m. Chickens shall be kept in compliance with the Michigan Department of Agriculture Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for the Care of Farm Animals, as it relates to Laying Chickens, as amended, except as otherwise provided in this ordinance.
6. Any violation of any of these provisions may be prosecuted as provided for in Article XV, Section 15.50 of the Township zoning ordinance.