

**COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF FLETCHER, OHIO**

**ORDINANCE 0-8-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS WITHIN THE VILLAGE.**

Whereas, the village ordinances, in terms of the ownership and control of animals within the village limits are outdated and in need of an update.

Whereas, the village wishes to allow residents to own chickens within the village under certain permitted situations.

**BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF FLETCHER, STATE OF OHIO:**

1. Codified ordinance 505.01 to 505.12 is hereby amended to read in its entirety:

**505.01 – DOG RUNNING AT LARGE**

No person being the owner of or having charge of any dog, whether wearing a registration tag or not, shall permit it to run at large upon any public place or upon the premises of another. The owner or keeper of every dog shall at all times keep such dog either confined upon the premises of the owner or keeper, or under reasonable control of some person. (ORC 955.22)

**505.08 – BARKING OR HOWLING DOGS**

No person shall keep or harbor any dog within the Village which, by frequent and habitual barking, howling or yelping, creates unreasonably loud and disturbing noises of such a character, intensity and duration as to disturb the peace, quiet and good order of the Village of Fletcher during the hours of 12:00am until 5:00 am. Any person who shall allow any dog habitually to remain, be lodged or fed within any dwelling, building, yard or enclosure, which he occupies or owns, shall be considered as harboring such dog.

**505.09 – NUISANCE CONDITIONS PROHIBITED**

No person shall keep or harbor any animal or fowl in the Village so as to create noxious, or offensive odors or unsanitary condition which are a menace to the health, comfort or safety of the public.

## **505.12 – DOG OWNER LIABLE FOR DAMAGE TO PUBLIC PROPERTY**

The owner, keeper or harborer of any dog which damages or destroys park or public property shall be held liable for the full value of the property damaged or destroyed in addition to any penalty imposed for a violation of this chapter.

## **505.13 – KEEPING AGRICULTURAL ANIMALS PROHIBITED**

(a) No person shall keep or harbor any an agricultural animal on any parcel of land in the Village of Fletcher.

(b) for purposes of this section, “agricultural animals” include horses, mules, donkeys, ponies, cattle, swine, sheep, goats, geese, ducks, turkeys, guinea fowl, peacocks, llamas, and any other animal found predominantly on a farm.

(c) Exceptions: This section shall not apply to the temporary display or showing of such animals as part of a circus, petting zoo, or festival, provided that a Village council member has been notified of such event and has issued a permit with specific guidelines for such event. Any person, organization, group, or business granted such a permit must keep any animals properly confined in clean and sanitary conditions; see that all animals are properly restrained for the safety of the public; and comply with all state and federal regulations and licensing requirements. This section also does not apply to chickens kept in compliance with section 505.14.

## **505.14 KEEPING CHICKENS**

The keeping of chickens within the Village of Fletcher is permitted provided compliance with the restrictions set forth below:

(1) Permit. A permit will need to be filed with the mayor or council member of the Village of Fletcher to own chickens with the Village limits. If applicant is not the property owner, the application for the permit must be co-signed or submitted by property owner. Approval of the permit will be determined by Village council members. Inspections can occur annually or upon written complaint by neighbors.

(2) Maximum allowable - six (6) hens

(3) No roosters or crowing hens. If birds crow, they are to be removed immediately.

(4) Habitat.

A. Coop will only be allowed in the rear yard.

B. There shall be one coop per lot.

C. It cannot be located within any easements.

- D. Coop must be a minimum of fifteen (15) square feet/bird – with a ninety (90) square foot maximum.
- E. Stable structure must be covered, and sealed against predatory animals
- F. Coop must be cleaned of waste at a minimum of once per week to avoid a nuisance to the neighborhood. Waste must be disposed of properly by bagging the waste and utilizing trash collection services.
- G. All coops not maintained in a safe and clean condition shall be brought into compliance or removed by the owner within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a written notice from the Mayor or member of village council advising non-compliance. Coop vacant for six (6) months must be removed.

(5) Sick or injured chickens must be treated or removed from the Village immediately.

(6) Feed must be stored in rodent proof containers

(7) Chickens must be kept in coop at all times. No free range allowed.

(8) Eggs and birds are for personal use only-not commercial. Butchering within Village is not permitted. Permit is not to be considered a home business allowing sale of eggs or meat.

(9) Notify a Village council member to terminate permit if chickens are no longer on the premises.

#### **509.14 PENALTIES**

Any violation of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor for a first offense. Any subsequent offense is a fourth-degree misdemeanor.

2. All previously enacted renditions of Codified Ordinance 505 are hereby revoked and replaced by the above version.
3. All subsections of 505 not currently used are reserved for further use.

Adopted:

Marcia Hafey  
President of Council

*Tom Hutton*  
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Mayor

ATTEST: *Julie M. Anderson*  
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JULIE ANDERSON  
Clerk  
VILLAGE OF FLETCHER, Miami County, Ohio

Ordinance read:

Date: 11/10/25

Date: 12/8/25

Date: 1/12/26