

# Village of Oakley, Michigan

## Backyard Fowl Ordinance 2024-01

**Purpose:** The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the keeping of fowl within the residential areas of the Village of Oakley. By allowing responsible fowl-keeping practices, we aim to promote sustainable food sources, community engagement, and neighborly harmony.

### Section 1: Definitions

1. **Fowl:** Any larger domestic bird generally used for food, including but not limited to chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys.
2. **Chicken:** Refers to domesticated Gallus (commonly known as hens).
3. **Rooster:** Male adult chicken.
4. **Duck:** A water bird with a broad bill, short legs, webbed feet, and a waddling gait.
5. **Goose:** A larger water bird with long neck, short legs, webbed feet, and a short broad bill.
6. **Turkey:** A large mainly domesticated game bird native to North America, having a bald head and males having red wattles.
7. **Residential Area:** Any parcel zoned for single-family or two-family residential use within the village limits.

### Section 2: Permitted Areas

1. Fowl may be kept on residential parcels within the Village of Oakley.
2. Parcels must have an existing principal residence.

### Section 3: Number of Fowl

1. Each residential parcel may keep up to a maximum of six (6) fowl.
2. Roosters are strictly prohibited.

### Section 4: Coop and Run Requirements

#### 1. Coop

- The coop must be well-maintained, secure, and predator-resistant.
- Coops must be located at least ten (10) feet from any property line.
- Coops must provide a minimum of four (4) square feet of indoor space per fowl.
- Coops must have proper ventilation and natural light.
- Coops should be aesthetically compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.
- No front yard.

#### 2. Run (Outdoor Area)

- An enclosed outdoor run must accompany the coop.
- The run must provide a minimum of ten (10) square feet per fowl.
- Run must be covered to prevent escape and protect fowl from predators.
- Fowl cannot be unattended outside of run area at any time.
- The run should be well drained and kept clean to minimize odor and waste buildup.
- No free-range fowl.

### **Section 5: Maintenance**

1. Fowl owners are responsible for maintaining a clean and sanitary coop and run.
2. Manure and waste must be properly managed to prevent odor and/or attraction of pests.
3. Regular cleaning and removal of waste are essential.

### **Section 6: Inspections and Permits**

1. Fowl owners must obtain an annual fowl-keeping permit from the Village Clerk.
2. The permit fee shall be Twenty Dollars (\$20) yearly.
3. The permit and fee must be submitted to the Village of Oakley Clerk on or before September Third (9/3).
4. Before any permit is issued there will be an inspection of the coop and run to assure compliance with Section 4 of the Village of Oakley Fowl Ordinance.
5. The Village of Oakley Ordinance Officer may conduct periodic inspections to ensure compliance with this ordinance.

### **Section 7: Nuisance and Noise**

1. Fowl must not create a nuisance for neighboring properties.
2. Noise levels should be reasonable and not disturb nearby residents.

### **Section 8: Violations and Penalties**

1. Violations of this ordinance will result in fines.
  - First violation will be a written and verbal warning.
  - Resident/s will have 2 weeks to comply with violation.
  - Failure to comply with the ordinance will result in a One Hundred Dollar (\$100) assessment per violation.
2. Any unpaid assessments will be added to the owners upcoming tax bill and may lead to the revocation of fowl-keeping permit.

Vote on Said Ordinance

Adopted: November 12, 2024

Yes: 5

Nays: 0

Richard Fish, Village of Oakley President

Jennifer M. Hart, Village of Oakley Clerk

Certification

The above ordinance is a true copy of the ordinance made and passed by the Village of Oakley Board at a regular meeting on the 12th day of November, 2024.