

# BACKYARD CHICKEN PERMIT APPLICATION

Planning Department, City of Grand Haven  
519 Washington Avenue, Grand Haven, MI 49417  
Phone: (616) 935-3276 Website: [www.grandhaven.org](http://www.grandhaven.org)

## 1. Project Information

Address/location of property: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning District: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Applicant

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Property Owner

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Required Details on Scaled Drawing *(See attached Zoning Ordinance Sec. 40-304.B for specific regulations)*

- Location of all structures on property
- Location of chicken enclosure
- Size and height of enclosure
- Enclosure building materials
- Setbacks from property lines to enclosure
- Predator barrier details

5. Proposed Number of Chickens: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Authorization from Property Owner *(if applicant is not property owner; see page 3 of application)*

7. Required Fee: \$35.00

**By Signing below, the applicant agrees to perform the described work in accordance with all applicable sections of the City of Grand Haven Code of Ordinances. Signer will insure that all inspection requests are made a minimum of 24 hours prior to the requested time.**

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### *Office Use Only*

Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_



**Excerpt from City of Grand Haven Zoning Ordinance Sec. 40-304:**

*B. Backyard chickens.* The intent of these regulations is to allow the raising of backyard chickens in single-family neighborhoods while protecting the urban character of the community. The keeping of backyard chickens is distinct from consideration of keeping other types of animals because chickens do not graze and require a small, contained area that is in keeping with the lot sizes in the City of Grand Haven.

No person shall keep chickens unless they obtain a backyard chicken permit and comply with the following conditions:

1. The keeping of chickens is permitted only on lots where the principal use is a single-family dwelling.
2. Chickens are prohibited on property located within the Sensitive Areas Overlay district.
3. The maximum number of chickens permitted per property shall be six (6). Roosters are prohibited.
4. Chickens must be maintained in a fully enclosed, roofed structure at all times.
5. The enclosure must be constructed of permanent residential building materials suited for the purpose intended, and in a manner which serves to enhance the aesthetic appearance of the neighborhood or surrounding area.
6. All areas accessible to the chickens, including the coop and run, shall be contained in a single structure not to exceed sixty (60) square feet in footprint and eight (8) feet in height measured from the grade. The minimum run size per chicken shall be eight (8) square feet.
7. The enclosure must have chicken wire or similar material embedded twelve (12) inches into the ground around the enclosure to deter predators from digging under the enclosure wall.
8. The enclosure shall be located in the rear yard and at least eight (8) feet from side and rear property lines, and where public sidewalk is present at least ten (10) feet distant from it.
9. The enclosure must be maintained in a clean and orderly fashion.
10. Chicken feed must be kept in a vermin-proof sealed container.
11. Slaughtering of chickens is not permitted.
12. The applicant shall pay the fee required by the fee resolution periodically adopted by the city council.
13. Applications for backyard chicken permits shall be submitted to, and permits shall be issued by, the planning and community development department.
14. An initial backyard chicken permit shall be valid indefinitely or until the property is sold or transferred to another owner, unless suspended or revoked.
15. Upon sale or transfer, the chickens and enclosure must be removed from the premises within sixty (60) days after the expiration of the permit.
16. Applications for a backyard chicken permit, suspensions, and revocations shall be handled in the manner provided in chapter 21 licenses.



**CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNER**  
*(required if applicant is not the property owner)*

Backyard Chicken Permit Application

I, \_\_\_\_\_, OF THE STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ AND  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ STATE THE FOLLOWING:

1. That I am the owner of real estate located at \_\_\_\_\_;
2. That I have read and examined the Backyard Chicken Permit Application made to the City of Grand Haven by \_\_\_\_\_;
3. That I have no objections to, and consent to the request(s) described in the Application made to the City of Grand Haven.

Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

