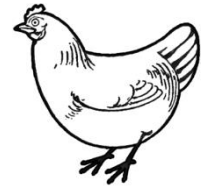




# City of Chicopee Health Department

## Fowl and Rabbit Keeping Cheat-Sheet



### Fowl and Rabbit Allowances

Persons are allowed, with final determination by the BOH, no more than the following number of animals for properties **less than one (1) acre**:

- 5 Rabbits
- 5 Chickens
- 8 Pigeons
- 2 Ducks

For each additional half (1/2) acre after the first acre, additional animals may be kept up to 3 times the original amount allowed (e.g., 15 rabbits or 6 ducks)

**A Residential Livestock License will not be issued to tenants or condo owners.** The only exemption would be to the owner of an owner-occupied two-family dwelling.

### Setback Requirements

The Facility shall be located no less than:

- 15 feet from property line(s);
- 50 feet from any neighboring dwelling;
- 50 feet from any well, public or private, used as a drinking water supply.

### Keeping of Poultry

**No roosters shall be allowed on any property** that is not a zoned and established farm.

There shall be at least **three (3) square foot of floor space for each mature poultry kept within the coop and ten (10) square feet of space per each mature poultry within the run. Chickens must be contained in run at all times.** Coops shall be cleaned regularly to maintain sanitary conditions and thoroughly **disinfected at least three times a year.**

### Keeping of Pigeons

All Pigeons shall be confined to their coop except for limited periods necessary for exercise, training, and competition. Training, exercising, and the release of Pigeons from the Facility shall not be undertaken during the hours of 10:00am to 4:00pm from June to September as not to disturb yard use and the enjoyment of abutting neighbors.

There shall be at least one (1) square foot of floor space for each mature Pigeon kept within the coop and ten (10) square feet of space within the run. Coops shall be cleaned regularly to maintain sanitary conditions and thoroughly disinfected at least three times a year.

### Additional Standards

- A Residential Livestock License is required of any person keeping rabbits or fowl. The fee is Twenty Five Dollars (\$25) and shall be valid for one (1) year and shall expire on March 31<sup>st</sup> of every year.
- Each Facility shall have a supply of potable water available to the structure for drinking and cleaning purposes.
- The Facility shall be adequately ventilated and provide protection from **weather and the elements.**
- The Facility shall be kept in a sanitary condition, free from decaying food, filth, feces, vermin infestation and stagnant water.
- Food shall be stored in sealed, moisture-proof and vermin-proof containers, when appropriate.
- All Facilities for the keeping of rabbits or fowl shall be securely fenced to prevent their escape. **Animals at no time shall be allowed to roam unattended from the designated area.**