

RESOLUTION 2015-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAKE WALES, POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING AN URBAN CHICKEN PROGRAM

WHEREAS the Lake Wales Chicken Council, a group of community members, have expressed their interest in allowing chickens to be kept at residences within the City Limits and proposed a pilot program to evaluate whether allowing chickens on a permanent basis is in the best interest of the community, and

WHEREAS, the pilot program completed its one year trial period with no complaints or compliance issues; and

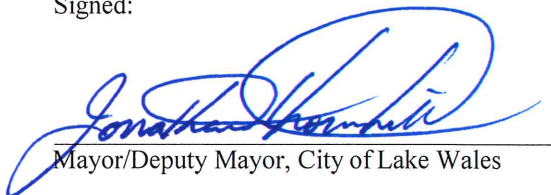
WHEREAS The Lake Wales City Commission enacted Ordinance 2015-11 amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6 - *Animals* to allow an Urban Chicken Program to be established by and governed by a Resolution as may be approved by the City Commission,

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Lake Wales City Commission hereby establishes The Urban Chicken Pilot Program to be conducted as follows:

1. Subject to the approval of the City Manager, the Department of Planning and Development may select and permit up to ten households to participate in the pilot program based on written applications and review of the applicant's site and plans for housing and caring for the animals.
2. The requirements of the permit shall be provided in writing to each participant. They shall include a limit on the number of chickens a participant may keep as well as conditions for restricting the chickens to the approved site and for housing and maintaining the animals.
3. Participants may keep domestic hens only; roosters and other fowl are prohibited.
4. City staff shall monitor participants for compliance with requirements.
5. At the discretion of the City Manager, any and all permits may be revoked by written notice at any time for violation of program requirements or issues of compatibility with the neighborhood.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 20 2015.

Signed:



Mayor/Deputy Mayor, City of Lake Wales

ATTEST:



City Clerk Clara VanBlargan, MMC



URBAN CHICKEN PROGRAM

The program is designed to allow the citizens of Lake Wales to raise a limited number of backyard chickens and in a manner that has limited impact on the City and the citizenry.

The program will include up to ten (10) participants. The program will be administered by the Department of Planning and Development.

The limited keeping of chickens may be permitted in a single-family residential backyard subject to the following conditions:

1. Subject properties must contain only one single-family dwelling unit.
2. Property owners must sign the application in the case of a leased property in addition to the applicant.
3. Chickens are limited to domestic hens (females). **ROOSTERS ARE PROHIBITED.**
4. No more than four (4) chickens are allowed per participating household.
5. Adequate shelter, care and control of the chickens are required. This must include arrangements for times when the participant may be out of town for extended periods of time.
6. Chickens must be contained within a covered chicken coop and fenced pen area. These shall be located in the rear half of the residential lot behind the principal structure. Specifically, the coop and fenced pen area shall be set back twenty (20) feet from any residential structure that is not located on the participating premises. A minimum setback of five (5) feet is required from the side and rear property lines of the participating premises.
7. Materials used for coops and pens shall be uniform and kept in good condition to protect the safety of the chickens. Pens shall include a coop (enclosed structure) containing a minimum of 1.5 square feet per hen and an open run area containing a minimum of 8 square feet per hen. Pens may be portable.
8. All pens shall be constructed and maintained so as to be impermeable to rodents, wild birds, and predators, including dogs and cats, and to prevent such animals or other pests from being harbored underneath, inside, or within the walls of the enclosure. All pens must be kept dry, well-ventilated, and in sanitary condition at all times, and must be cleaned on a regular basis to prevent offensive odors. All manure not used for



composting or fertilizing shall be removed promptly. Odors from chickens, manure, or other chicken-related substances shall not be detectable at the property boundaries.

9. All feed or other material intended for consumption by the chickens shall be kept in containers impenetrable by rats or other rodents, and such containers shall be equipped with tightly fitting caps or lids. All feeding shall be conducted in a manner so as to prevent unconsumed food from being accessible to other animals or rodents. The presence of rodents in an area for the keeping of chickens may result in the termination of participation in the pilot program.
10. Slaughtering of chickens is prohibited.
11. Violations of the Program conditions will be subject to Section 6-4 of the *Lake Wales Code of Ordinances*.



**CITY OF LAKE WALES, POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA
URBAN CHICKEN PROGRAM APPLICATION**

DATE: _____

APPLICANT: _____

Property Owner (if different from applicant): _____

PREMISES ADDRESS: _____

PRIMARY CONTACT NUMBER: _____

Secondary contact person and phone number: _____

Number of chickens on premises: _____ (up to 4 chickens allowed)

Size of pen: length: _____ **width:** _____ **height:** _____

Total square footage of coop: _____ **Total square footage of open run:** _____

Distance of pen from adjacent principal structures: _____

Distance of pen from property lines: _____

Agreement:

By signing this statement, the applicant agrees that the premises may be inspected at all reasonable times so as to assure compliance with the conditions outlined in the documents governing the Pilot Program and the *Lake Wales Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6*, as they may be amended from time to time.

Applicant

Date

Property Owner (if different from applicant)

Date

Official Use Only

Date Received: _____

Date Reviewed: _____

Date of site inspection: _____

Pass _____ **Fail** _____

Authorization by the City of Lake Wales