

SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR THE KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council authorize staff to prepare amendments to the Burnaby Zoning Bylaw and Animal Control Bylaw as required, to permit the keeping of backyard chickens, following the parameters set out in Section 5.0 of this report.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information.

REPORT

The Social Planning Committee, at its meeting held on 2022 March 22, received and adopted the attached report proposing a framework for the keeping of backyard chickens in Burnaby.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Jordan
Chair

Councillor J. Keithley
Vice Chair

Copied to:	Chief Administrative Officer Deputy CAO/CFO GM Corporate Services GM Community Safety GM Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services City Solicitor Chief Librarian Chief License Inspector
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TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

DATE: 2022 March 10

FROM: GENERAL MANAGER
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

FILE: 1750 20

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR THE KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

PURPOSE: To propose a framework for the keeping of backyard chickens in Burnaby.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** the Committee request Council to authorize staff to prepare amendments to the *Burnaby Zoning Bylaw* and *Animal Control Bylaw* as required to permit the keeping of backyard chickens, following the parameters set out in *Section 5.0* of this report.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

At its 2020 June 16 meeting, the Social Planning Committee received correspondence including a petition with 173 signatures seeking a change to the City's current bylaws to support the keeping of backyard chickens. The Committee referred the matter to staff and requested a report outlining ways the City can support residents to produce more of their own food, including backyard chickens (eggs).

Staff responded to this request in a report received by the Committee at its 2020 November 17 meeting. The report requested authorization to re-examine the feasibility and advisability of permitting the keeping of backyard chickens, which was granted by the Committee and Council. Accordingly, this report provides an overview of the subject and outlines a proposed framework for the humane and sanitary keeping of backyard chickens in Burnaby.

2.0 POLICY CONTEXT

Expanded City efforts to support resident food security, via the keeping of backyard chickens, is aligned with the following Council-adopted policies, plans, and strategies: *Equity Policy* (2020), *Corporate Strategic Plan* (2017), *Environmental Sustainability Strategy* (2016), *Social Sustainability Strategy* (2011), and *Healthy Community Policy* (1991).

3.0 BURNABY CONTEXT

The land that Burnaby is on has always supported hənqəminəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking people to hunt, fish, harvest and gather. Burnaby also has a history of settler agricultural production that spans 150 years. Given this historical legacy, the City supported the creation and continues to support the ongoing protection of 234 hectares of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) within the Big Bend area of south Burnaby under the A1 and A3 Agricultural Districts. This area accommodates approximately 40 active farms.

Food security has many definitions, however it is commonly understood as when all people have ongoing physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food, which is grown and/or produced in an environmentally sensitive manner, and that meets their cultural preferences and dietary needs for an active and healthy life.

3.1 Existing Burnaby Food Initiatives

The City actively seeks to support access to food, the ability to grow food, and to support pollinators, through a range of formal and informal supports and initiatives. An overview of these supports are summarized and listed below:

- The City was a founding member of Burnaby Food First (BFF), which was a local community consortium that was formed in the late 1990s to advocate for affordable access to food for all community residents. BFF has offered free workshops to residents on container food gardening (designed for balconies) and food preservation.
- In 2009, City Council adopted amendments to the Zoning Bylaw to permit beekeeping (apiculture) in R1 through R5, R10 and R11 Residential Districts and A1 through A3 Agricultural Districts.
- The City partners with Artisan Farmers' Markets to offer a weekly market at Burnaby City Hall from May to October.
- The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has historically offered free or subsidized food as part of many programs. Examples included subsidized seniors luncheons, youth cooking programs and children's gardening programs.
- Burnaby leases City-owned land at no-cost for two community gardens¹: the Heights Community Garden and the Burnaby and Region Allotment Garden. The latter garden is the largest of its kind in Western Canada. Both gardens are very popular and have long waitlists.
- Gardening plots are increasingly being included, as a result of City requests, within new multi-family developments for the use of building residents. As a result, over 100 new gardening plots have been created in new developments over the past five years.
- In alignment with the City's Social and Environmental Sustainability Strategies, the City is currently developing a first-ever Burnaby Food Systems Strategy to outline the current context of access to food, as well as articulating short, medium, and long term actions for enhancement.

The keeping of chickens in an urban environment, including residences, provides food security benefits including providing access to eggs, the production of fertilizer, the provision of natural pest control

¹ To the knowledge of staff, there are currently 13 community gardens currently in Burnaby. 11 of the gardens are on educational institution property and two are on City property.

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(i.e. chickens eating flies and grubs) and other benefits. The City has a history of encouraging urban agriculture and in seeking to support the food security of individual residents. As such, there are precedents for expanded City efforts to support resident food security and consider for the action of permitting the keeping of backyard chickens within certain parameters.

4.0 BACKYARD CHICKENS OVERVIEW

In the *Burnaby Zoning Bylaw*, the keeping of chickens is a permitted use in the A1 and A2 Agricultural Districts as well as the M1 through M3 and M5 Industrial Districts. In the A1 District, the keeping of chickens is permitted for commercial and domestic purposes, while in the A2 District the keeping of chickens is limited to domestic purposes only. In the M1 through M3 and M5 Districts the keeping of chickens is permitted as an agricultural use. It should be noted that in the A3 Truck Gardening District, the keeping of chickens are permitted on properties that are designated ALR under the *Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation*.

In 2010, Council examined the keeping of backyard chickens in residential areas. At its meeting of 2010 June 21, Council recommended against permitting the keeping of backyard chickens in residential districts, citing concerns regarding noise, odour, pests, spread of disease and unwanted poultry. Since that time, a number of other local governments with a largely urban land base have adopted regulations which permit the keeping of chickens on residential properties within certain parameters that address potential disease and pest concerns.

In response to recent, increased community interest in the keeping of backyard chickens, as noted above, Council adopted a report at its meeting of 2020 November 17 that authorized staff to re-examine the feasibility and advisability of permitting the keeping of backyard chickens. Staff's review process was wide reaching but focussed primarily on four areas:

- a scan of practices in other local governments in B.C.;
- an examination of potential health risks and mitigation measures;
- an examination of potential 'nuisances', including the potential to attract predators and rodents, odour, and noise; and,
- research into optimal care and living conditions for the humane keeping of backyard chickens.

Each area is discussed and summarized below with additional information provided in *Appendix 1* and *2*.

4.1 Best Practices in other Local Governments

Under the *Local Government Act* and *Community Charter*, municipalities are able to regulate backyard chickens through land use regulation bylaws. As detailed in *Appendix 1*, backyard chicken regulations exist within policy, guidelines and bylaws for a number of municipalities. Approximately half of the local governments within Metro Vancouver permit the urban keeping of backyard chickens, within certain parameters. Best practices and considerations of the keeping of backyard chickens are as follows:

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- **Districts where backyard chickens are permitted** – Chickens are typically permitted on agricultural lands and single-family residential lots. Only a few municipalities permit them in additional districts (e.g. two-family and multi-family residential lots).
- **Restrictions on the number of chickens** – The number of chickens permitted is typically related to lot size. In more urban municipalities, the number of chickens permitted in residential districts ranges from two to eight.
- **Siting requirements** – Siting requirements vary amongst the municipalities reviewed but generally most have minimum setback and location requirements for the chicken coop, run and enclosure spaces.
- **Bylaw amendments** – Municipalities have typically amended their zoning bylaw, animal control bylaw and associated enforcement/ticketing bylaw(s) to include supporting language (e.g. definitions), permit the use, and regulate/enforce backyard chickens. Only a few municipalities have created a separate bylaw that specifically addresses backyard chickens.
- **Enforcement** – Based on discussions with bylaw officers from neighbouring municipalities, the enforcement and compliance of backyard chickens is generally investigated on a complaint basis. To date, there have been a low number of complaints and tickets issued for backyard chickens in comparison to other animal-related service calls (e.g. dogs).

4.2 Examination of Potential Health Risks and Mitigations – Diseases

Staff consulted with the Fraser Health’s Medical Health Officer for Burnaby on the potential health risks relating to the keeping of backyard chickens, including mitigation measures. More specifically, the potential health risks examined included: Avian Influenza, Salmonella, Campylobacter, E. Coli, and Newcastle Disease, as detailed in *Appendix 2*.

The Medical Health Officer advised that the disease risk is low so long as proper regulation, education, safety, and waste management are addressed. The Medical Health Officer provided specific examples of ways to mitigate risk and provided links to relevant sources, including materials prepared by other municipalities.

Staff also consulted with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (Ministry). Starting in 2022, the Ministry will require owners to register livestock, including poultry, through a livestock traceability system called the Premises Identification (ID) program². Its purpose is to provide:

- An up-to-date list of premises that have animals in the City;
- rapid notification to animal owners on relevant information;
- preparedness for any animal health, natural disaster and food safety emergencies (e.g. communicable diseases); and
- facilitation of rapid evacuation of animals in a natural disaster emergency (e.g. floods).

Ministry staff advised that this program is intended for large and small scale livestock and hobby farms, including backyard chickens. There is no cost to register and obtain a premises ID number from the Ministry. The responsibility will be on the owner to practice the safe and healthy keeping of chickens,

² For more information - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. Premises Identification Program. Accessed October 2021: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/programs/premises-id>

however, the Ministry and local governments can facilitate mitigation risks by providing general regulations and educational resources.

4.3 Examination of Potential Nuisances – Pests, Noise and Odour

Potential nuisances of attracting other animals as well as noise and odour were also discussed with the Medical Health Officer, including mitigation measures. The review concluded that appropriate care, maintenance, sanitization, and disposal of backyard chicken waste can reduce the potential of attracting pests and limiting noise and odour issues. Regulations in other local governments include:

- **Prohibition of keeping roosters** – Roosters are generally prohibited in the majority of urban municipalities due to rooster crowing that can reach a sound level of 85 to 90 decibels A (dBA), above the “continuous sound” levels identified in noise bylaws. The *Burnaby Noise or Sound Abatement Bylaw* limits the noise level for continuous noise or sound in the residential districts to 55 dBA between 7:00 am to 10:00 pm and to 45 dBA between 10:00 pm to 7:00 am.
- **Restrictions on flock size and distance from other properties** – the number of chickens is limited for noise and odour purposes. A noise reading conducted by staff from the City of Pleasanton, California identified a “squawking” chicken registered at 63 dBA at two feet away, and would not register at nine feet away³. As well, educational resources for owners emphasize the importance of regular cleaning to minimize unpleasant odours.
- **Prohibition of the slaughtering, euthanasia, and processing of chickens** – in other jurisdictions, animal owners are prohibited from slaughtering, euthanizing, and/or processing animals on their premises and are required to dispose of animal carcasses at appropriate and authorized facilities. Local governments have implemented fines to prevent these occurrences.
- **Other guidelines and best practices to reduce noise, odour, waste, and other environmental impacts** – in addition to the above regulations, some jurisdictions have produced their own educational resources and guidelines to promote best practices in the keeping of backyard chickens. Some municipalities addressed backyard chickens through creating their own guidelines as well as providing external resources from other notable organizations.

4.4 Humane Keeping of Backyard Chickens

In conversation with the Medical Health Officer, proper guidance on general food and water needs, social structure, veterinarian care, and sanitation related to backyard chickens can minimize potential health risks and nuisances as mentioned. As noted above, some local governments as well as non-profit organizations have provided tools and resources to help residents support chickens and their well-being.

In Burnaby, the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA) provides animal control services on behalf of the City, including to investigate animal cruelty complaints in the *Animal Control Bylaw*. The BC SPCA supports consumers seeking alternatives to eggs produced by caged laying hens and provides resource materials including a series of questions for residents to take into consideration before taking up the keeping of backyard chickens⁴.

³ City of Pleasanton. Planning Commission Staff Report (2005) from <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/pcsr-6f-prz30-ord.pdf>

⁴ British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA). Thinking of Keeping Backyard Chickens? (2021) from: <https://spca.bc.ca/news/backyard-chickens/>

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4.5 Summary

Approximately half of Metro Vancouver municipalities permit the keeping of backyard chickens with general provisions that specify the districts where the keeping of backyard chickens is permitted, and they also regulate the size of flock, and have developed siting requirements. In addition, educational materials and resources are provided to owners to promote the safe keeping, maintenance and humane care of backyard chickens as well as to help mitigate any health risks and nuisances.

5.0 PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR THE KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

Based on staff's research, including consultation with Burnaby's Medical Health Officer and the Ministry, as well as the examination of best practices in other local governments mentioned above, it is proposed that staff be directed to prepare the necessary amendments to the *Burnaby Zoning Bylaw* and *Animal Control Bylaw* to permit the keeping of backyard chickens in residential districts.

The proposed framework and bylaw consideration in residential districts are summarized below.

PROPOSED FRAMEWORK	BYLAW CONSIDERATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce/update definitions in the bylaws 	<p>Align definitions between bylaws – Proper definitions pertaining to backyard chickens would be necessary for consistency in multiple bylaws.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only residents living in single-family dwellings are permitted to keep chickens as an accessory use 	<p>Specify appropriate zoning districts – Based on general practice, it is recommended that backyard chickens for domestic purposes be limited to lots containing a single family dwelling in the R1 through R5, R10 and R11 Districts. These districts provide sufficient lot area and width to accommodate chicken coop, run and enclosure space. The existing regulations for the Agricultural Districts would remain the same.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize the risk of predation through proper and secure pen and coop construction Secure feed to eliminate the risk of pest intrusion and spoilage, and attracting other animals 	<p>Specify siting regulations – It is recommended that the keeping of backyard chickens be restricted to lots that have a minimum lot area of 557.4m² (6,000 square feet) and width of 15m (49.2 feet). It is further recommended that the chicken coop, run and enclosure spaces be restricted in the rear yard and be setback from property lines. These siting requirements would be in line with the humane keeping and well-being of chickens, and would mitigate any nuisances and safety risks as mentioned above.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents are permitted to keep a minimum of two chickens and not more than four 	<p>Limit the number of chickens – As per Medical Health Officer's advice of maintaining a small flock size, it is recommended to limit the number of chickens to four. The limit on the number of chickens is consistent with other local government practices. A minimum of two chickens is recommended for socialization with other chickens (humane keeping).</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only hens are permitted, which are defined as female chickens over the age of four months 	Limit the sex and age of chickens – As per Medical Health Officer’s advice of mitigating health risks, it is recommended that only hens be permitted (hens are defined as female egg-laying chickens that are over the age of four months).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No roosters are permitted No sale of eggs is permitted on the premises No slaughter of chickens is permitted on the premises 	Specify prohibitions – It is recommended to prohibit the keeping of roosters subject to the <i>Burnaby Noise or Sound Abatement Bylaw</i> , as well as selling eggs upon the premises, and on-site slaughtering of any poultry to align with hobby farming, health and safety and humane keeping of chickens.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration of chicken(s) with the Ministry of Agriculture’s BC Premises ID program is required. 	Chicken registration – To comply with provincial regulations, residents would be required to register their chickens through the Premises ID program and provide registration information to the City.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the City’s information package on keeping of backyard chickens 	Regulations and resources – Based on general practice, Staff would prepare a public information package to include general information, a summary of requirements for keeping of backyard chickens, relevant bylaws and links to other educational information and resources (including information from this report) for residents interested in backyard chickens.

Should the keeping of backyard chickens be permitted in Burnaby, staff would monitor the changes to the bylaws and report back to Council on further amendments or issues.

6.0 NEXT STEPS

Based on the interest expressed for the keeping of backyard chickens in Burnaby, existing backyard chicken programs existing in other nearby jurisdictions, and in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries and Medical Health Officer for Burnaby, it is recommended that staff be directed to prepare bylaw amendments to permit the keeping of backyard chickens in residential districts.

Should Council approve the proposed framework, staff would report back to Committee and Council with the necessary draft bylaw.

7.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The City has a history of encouraging urban agriculture and in seeking to support the food security of individual residents. As such, there is precedence for expanded efforts to support resident food security, include to permitting the keeping of backyard chickens within certain parameters.

As such, it is also recommended that Committee request Council to authorize staff to prepare amendments to the *Burnaby Zoning Bylaw* and *Animal Control Bylaw* as required, in order to permit the keeping of backyard chickens, following the parameters set out in *Section 5.0* of this report.

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It is also recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information.



E.W. Kozak, General Manager
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

KO:sa

Attachments

cc:	Chief Administrative Officer	City Solicitor
	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer	Chief Librarian
	General Manager Community Safety	City Clerk
	General Manager Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services	Chief License Inspector

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Jurisdictional Scan of Local Government Practices - Backyard Chickens							
Municipality	Minimum Lot Size	Limits in the Number of Chickens?	If yes, how many permitted?	Zone	Minimum Set-back	Minimum Coop Size	Notes
Belcarra		Yes	2 to 4 hens	All	3m from dwelling; 1.2m from lot lines; 3m from flanking street	Minimum 0.37m ² coop; 0.92m ² enclosed run per hen	
Burnaby	4,000 m ²	No		A1 (Agriculture) A2 (Small Holdings)			
Delta	0.2 ha	Yes	<u>Residential use:</u> Max 12 chickens for properties 0.2 ha in size, additional 12 chickens per 0.4 ha exceeding initial 0.2 ha <u>Land abutting Agriculture (AG):</u> Max 4 chickens	Single family zones (RS2) or land abutting AG land	<u>Residential use:</u> Front: 30m; Interior side: 12m; Exterior side: 12m; Rear: 12m		
Maple Ridge	>0.4 ha	No		RS-1 and RS-2 when in ALR, RS-3 when larger than 0.4 ha			
New Westminster	6,000 sq.ft.	Yes	8 chickens, increase of 1 chicken for each 750 sqft up to a site of 0.5 acre provided it does not exceed 50 on a site	Single family residential	50 ft from the nearest dwelling, no less than 2 ft from property line	Required	
North Vancouver (City)		Yes	8 chickens (hens)	Single unit residential (OCP-R1)		Required	No roosters permitted; No sale of eggs or slaughter of chickens permitted; No permits required; Provide urban chicken guidelines.
North Vancouver (District)		Yes	2 to 6 hens	Single family residential (RS)	Front: 1.2m from house; Side: 1.5m; Rear: 1.2m	Coop must be no larger than 5 m ² (53.8 sq.ft.), with 0.4 m ² per hen. Run must be at least 1 m ² (4.3 sq.ft) per hen	No roosters permitted; No sale of eggs or slaughter of chickens permitted; Registration required.
Richmond	2,000 m ²	No		All			
Surrey	7,200 sq.ft. (669 m ²)	Yes	Coop must be no larger than 5 m ² (53.8 sq.ft.), with 0.4 m ² per hen. Run must be at least 1 m ² (4.3 sq.ft) per hen	Single family urban area	Located in rear yard. 3.0m from any dwelling unit; 1.2m from rear/side lot lines; 3m from side yard on flanking street	Each hen must have 0.37m ² (4sqft) of interior coop floor area and at least 0.92m ² (10sqft) of outdoor enclosure area. Each hen has at least 1 perch, that is at least 15cm (6in) long, and 1 nest box.	Roosters allowed on lots >5 acres. Ducks, turkeys, or other fowl other than hens not allowed on lots <1 acre.
Vancouver		Yes	Max. 4 hens (no roosters)	Single and multi-family residential zones	1m from property line, 3m from windows/doors of dwellings. Reduced exterior side yard setback on corner lots	Max. 9.2m ² (100sqft), max height 2m. Min. 0.37 m ² (4sqft) & 0.92 m ² (10sqft) run space per hen. >15cm perch and 1 nest box for each hen	No roosters permitted; 4 months or older; No sale of eggs, meat, and manure; No slaughtering permitted; registration required
West Vancouver		Yes	Max. 6 chickens	Single family residential	Rear: 1.2m Side: 1.5m 1.2m from dwelling Max height of 2m	Perch must be at least 15cm long per chicken, at least 1 nest box per coop. Min. 0.4 m ² per chicken, max floor area 9m ² . At least 1 m ² per chicken in chicken run	No roosters permitted; 4 months or older; registration required.

Appendix 2 – Backyard Poultry: Potential Health Risks and Mitigation Measures

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (TRANSMITTED FROM THE POULTRY TO HUMANS)

Disease	Relevance to Health	Potential Mitigation Measures
Enteric Bacteria: Salmonella and Campylobacter (also includes others, such as E. coli)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly transmitted through chicken manure that is ingested, through direct contact with an infected bird or with contaminated equipment, and the consumption of contaminated eggs. Although there is potential for transmission if excrement becomes aerosolized, this is unlikely outside of commercial-sized operations Poultry can carry infectious agents like Salmonella without any symptoms of illness In the US, Salmonella is the only pathogen identified in reported human outbreaks that has been linked to backyard chickens 	Regulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register of license backyard flocks. This would create an opportunity to provide educational materials and help maintain a communication list available during significant events (e.g. Avian Influenza detected) Requirements to source quality birds (e.g. from reputable sources) Flocks should not be removed from property or allowed to mix with other birds (e.g. wild birds or other flocks) Flocks should only have chickens and not other kinds of birds Prohibit chicks because they shed more Salmonella Bacteria than Older birds. Children in particular are more likely to come into close contacts with chicks Require owners to purchase proper feed and ban feeding kitchen scraps
Viruses: Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) and Newcastle Disease	<p><i>Avian Influenza</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Largely an infection amongst birds with previous outbreaks in poultry. In rare cases, it has crossed over to infect humans. This received significant media attention in the past, but mainly relevant to commercial chicken flocks and backyard flocks specifically in Asia. The perceived risk of avian influenza is likely overestimated with respect to backyard flocks in North American settings. <p><i>Newcastle Disease</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant infection concern amongst birds; there are virulent forms that are highly infection and can be fatal to them It is possible for humans to be infected by this virus. If that occurs, symptoms are generally mild, including flu-like symptoms and pink eye 	Owner Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handling of chickens should be minimized Wear dedicated clothing and shoes while handling chickens. Wear gloves to avoid direct contact Wash hands after handling. Equipment should also be sanitized Do not eat or drink while around chickens Do not kiss or snuggle chickens Do not allow chickens into households Limit visitors to the coop, especially if they also own a poultry flock Owners should be able to monitor the health of their birds, recognize sickness, and see veterinary care Owners should report clusters of bird deaths or concerning illness Safe Consumption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eggs should be cleaned prior to consumption Broken or cracked eggs should not be eaten Prohibit sales of eggs and chicken meat to others Waste Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to use chicken manure as fertilizer, it must be composted properly to kill infectious agents Ensure that poultry waste does not pollute water systems with infectious agents Prohibit slaughtering and euthanasia on the premises

POTENTIAL TO ATTRACT OTHER ANIMALS

Concern	Relevance to Health	Potential Mitigation Measures
Predators (e.g. raccoons, coyotes, cougars)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attracting predator to communities may increase the risk of animal attacks on pets and humans Can increase human exposures to zoonoses carried by predators (e.g. raccoon roundworm) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate housing for the flock that is kept in good repair Safely enclose the coop as further deterrent to predators Restrict the times that the flock can be outside the coop (e.g. only from dawn to dusk) Limit flock size
Rodents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May eat poultry feed and contaminate it Can increase human exposure to zoonoses carried by rodents (e.g. leptospirosis, hantavirus) Can Carry parasites like lice, fleas, and mites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store poultry feed in rodent-proof containers Store food and water within the coop at night Remove all loose feed at night
Other premise pests (e.g. flies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More likely to be a nuisance rather than a true disease risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General sanitation measures

NUISANCE FACTORS TO THE COMMUNITY

Concern	Relevance to Health	Potential Mitigation Measures
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hens will squawk while laying eggs. In general, this is not particularly loud and estimated to be under a 5 minute duration Roosters pose a larger noise concern with crowing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit flock size Prohibit roosters Prohibit chickens under 4 months; sexing them is difficult and it may lead to an unwanted rooster Ensure there is a process to surrender unwanted roosters
Odour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could lead to neighbourhood conflict and subsequent negative social impacts Otherwise, usually has no significant direct health effects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coops should be designed so manure can be removed promptly and easily Limit the amount of manure that can be stored on-site Ensure there is a process for owners to dispose of animal carcasses that minimizes human exposure and environmental contamination Prohibit slaughtering and euthanasia on the premises

INFORMATION SOURCES

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