

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY

BY-LAW No. 2023-61

**A BY-LAW TO REGULATE BACKYARD CHICKENS.**

**WHEREAS** Subsection 11 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c 25, as amended, permits a municipality to enact a by-law respecting matters within the animal sphere of jurisdiction;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of Admaston/Bromley Council considers it advisable to pass such a by-law regarding the keeping of backyard chickens;

**THEREFORE** the Council of the Township of Admaston/Bromley enacts as follows:

1. Definitions:

**“Administration Department”** means the Township Office Staff, includes all staff that work in the township office.

**“Agricultural Property”** means a property that is zoned for agricultural use in the Township’s Zoning By-law.

**“Animal Control Officer”** means an authorized employee or agent of the Township of Admaston/Bromley or By-Law Enforcement, who is responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of this by-law.

**“At Large”** means, in the case of backyard chickens, means being outside of a fenced area.

**“Backyard Chicken”** means a domestic fowl kept for its eggs and/or meat.

**“Chicken Run”** means a covered secure enclosure that allows backyard chickens access to the outdoors.

**“Coop”** means a fully enclosed weatherproof building where backyard chickens are kept and which the interior includes nest boxes for egg laying, perches for the backyard chickens to sleep on and food and water containers.

**“Council”** means the Council of the Township of Admaston/Bromley.

**“Dwelling”** means a self-contained residential unit.

**“Highway”** means all land between the lateral boundaries of every provincial, county and municipal highway within the Township.

**“Home Occupation”** means any occupation for gain or support which is carried on as an accessory use either within a dwelling or dwelling unit and operated by members of the one family residing in a dwelling or dwelling unit (Zoning By-Law).

**“Keep”** means to have temporary or permanent custody or control of an animal, and “keeps” and “kept” have corresponding meanings.

**“Minor”** means a person who has not attained the age of eighteen years.

**“Mobile Slaughterhouse”** means a mobile slaughterhouse that will come to the property to slaughter the backyard chickens.

**“Owner”** includes any person who possesses, harbours, or keeps an animal or fowl and, where an owner is a minor, includes the person who is responsible for the custody of the minor.

**“Property”** means a parcel of land and any buildings or other structures on the land.

**“Residential Property”** means a property that is zoned for residential use in the Zoning By-law that applies to the property.

**“Rooster”** means an adult male chicken (an adult male chicken becomes a rooster approximately one year or when or when it begins to crow).

**“Rural Area”** means the areas that are designated in the Township’s Zoning By-Law as rural use.

**“Township”** means the Township of Admaston/Bromley.

**“Under the Control of its Owner”** means being physically restrained by some other effective method by its owner or by another person acting on the owner’s behalf.

**“Zoning By-Law”** means a by-law passed under Section 34 of the Planning Act that restricts the use of land.

## 2. Application:

- 2.1 Except as otherwise provided, the regulations established by this by-law apply to all backyard chickens within the boundaries of the Township and to the owners of such backyard chickens.
- 2.2 Applicant Declaration that they have read and understood all information provided by the following agencies:
  - a) Bird Health Basics – Canadian Food Inspection Agency
  - b) Small Flock Poultry: Raising Healthy Birds – OMAFRA
  - c) Rodent Control in Livestock and Poultry Facilities – Ministry of Health
  - d) Keeping Your Family Healthy with Backyard Poultry, including chickens and ducklings – Ministry of Health
- 2.3 Shall provide a Site Plan of the placement of the chicken coop and chicken run on the property.
- 2.4 The chicken coop and chicken run shall follow the Ontario Building Code and if a building permit is required, one must be applied for.

## 3. Administration:

- 3.1 The Township Office Staff is responsible for the administration of this by-law.
- 3.2 Every application (attached as Schedule ‘A’) for a chicken coop permit or for the renewal of such a permit shall be submitted to the Township Office in the form provided.
- 3.3 Every application for a permit will be reviewed by Township staff, the Animal Control Officer and the Chief Building Official to determine whether it meets the requirements of this by-law and, as part of this review, will be circulated to the County of Renfrew Planning Division and the County of Renfrew Health Unit.

- 3.4 These agencies or individuals identified in 3.3, as part of their review, may require an inspection of the property, other than a room or place used as a dwelling.
- 3.5 If it is determined that an application meets the requirements of this by-law, the Township Office will issue the permit.
- 3.6 There is a fee to obtain a permit. (Fees & Charges By-Law)
- 3.7 If, at any time, the Township staff or the Animal Control Officer or their designates determine, as a result of evidence that is provided, that the operation of the chicken coop does not conform to the requirements of this by-law, they may suspend or revoke the permit.
4. Regulations for the Keeping of Backyard Chickens:
- 4.1 The regulations set out in section 4 do not apply to property that is 2 or more hectares in size.
- 4.2 (a) No person shall keep backyard chickens anywhere within the Township unless they have first obtained a Backyard Chicken Permit (attached as Schedule 'B').
- (b) No person shall keep roosters as backyard chickens.
- (c) Every person who holds a Backyard Chicken Permit shall allow, at any reasonable time, the Animal Control Officer or other authorized employee or agent of the Township to inspect the property for the provisions of this by-law for a permit and to respond to complaints for the provisions of this by-law.
- (d) Every person who holds a Backyard Chicken Permit shall provide for their backyard chickens a chicken coop.
- (e) The Backyard Chicken Coop shall:
- i. Provide at least 4 square feet of floor area for each backyard chicken.
  - ii. Be enclosed on all sides and have a roof and doors.
  - iii. Include a perch for each backyard chicken.
  - iv. Include nest boxes.
  - v. Be maintained and in good repair, in a clean, dry and sanitary condition, free from vermin.
  - vi. Be constructed and maintained to prevent wildlife from harbouring underneath or within it or within its walls, and to prevent entrance by any other animal.
- (f) Backyard chickens must be provided with food, water, shelter, light, ventilation and opportunities for essential behaviours such as scratching, dustbathing and roosting, all sufficient to maintain backyard chickens in good health.
- (g) Chicken coops and chicken runs are not permitted in any front or side yard.
- (h) Chicken coops and chicken runs shall be a distance of at least 3.0 metres from the rear lot line and at least 3.0 metres from any side lot line of the dwelling lot on which the chicken coop is located.

- (i) Chicken coops and chicken runs shall be located at least 30 metres from any school, church or business.
- (j) The keeping of backyard chickens shall be permitted as an accessory use to a dwelling unit.
- (k) A maximum amount of backyard chickens shall be by the property size and is as follows:
  - i. Properties under .25 Hectare (0.6 acre)
    - Maximum of 4 Backyard Chickens
  - ii. Minimum of .25 Hectare (0.6 acre)
    - Maximum of 6 Backyard Chickens
  - iii. Minimum of .5 Hectare (1.2 acre)
    - Maximum of 8 Backyard Chickens
  - iv. Minimum of 1 Hectare (2.4 acre)
    - Maximum of 10 Backyard Chickens
  - v. Minimum of 1.99 Hectare (4.9 acre)
    - Maximum of 12 Backyard Chickens
- (l) Tenants must obtain written permission from the property owner to keep backyard chickens on the owner's property and shall be submitted at the time of applying for the permit.
- (m) The owner of the backyard chickens must reside on the property where the backyard chickens are kept.
- (n) Backyard chickens shall be kept in their chicken coops between sunset and sunrise.
- (o) Backyard chickens shall always be secured by a fence.
- (p) Chicken coops and chicken runs shall be maintained in a clean condition.
- (q) Stored manure shall be kept in an enclosed structure such as a compost bin, and no more than three cubic feet shall be stored at any one time.
- (r) Home slaughter of backyard chickens is prohibited.
- (s) Mobile slaughterhouses are permitted to attend the property to slaughter the backyard chickens.
- (t) Backyard chickens that become deceased shall be disposed of by burial at a minimum of 1 metre in depth.
- (u) No owner shall cause or permit their chickens to be at large.
- (v) The Backyard Chicken Permit is non-transferable.
- (w) The Backyard Chicken Permit is for the property identified on the application.
- (x) The Backyard Chicken Permit shall be renewed annually.

## 5. Offences and Penalty Provisions:

- 5.1 Every person who contravenes any provision of this by-law and any person who fails to comply with an order issued under this by-law is guilty of an offence and, upon conviction, is liable to a penalty as

provided for in the Provincial Offences Act and to any other applicable penalties.

5.2 Every owner of an animal who contravenes any provision of this by-law or whose animal contravenes any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence and, upon conviction, is liable to a penalty as provided for in the Provincial Offences Act and to any other applicable penalties.

5.3 If this by-law is contravened and a conviction is entered, the court in which the conviction was entered or any Court of competent jurisdiction may, in addition to any other remedy and to any penalty that is imposed, make an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the person convicted.

6. Validity:

6.1 If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provision, or any part of a provision, of this by-law to be invalid, or to be of no force and effect, it is the intention of Council in enacting this by-law that each and every provision of this by-law authorized by law be applied and enforced in accordance with its terms to the extent possible according to law.

7. Commencement:

7.1 This by-law comes into force and effect on January 1, 2024.

READ a first and second time this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023.

READ a third time and finally passed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023.

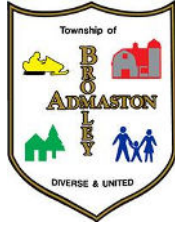
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Mayor

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CAO/Clerk

**BY-LAW 2023-61 – SCHEDULE “A”**



**TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY**

**APPLICATION FOR THE KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS**

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of Applicant	
Name of Property Owner (If other than Applicant)	
Address of Property (Where chickens to be kept)	
Property Size - # of Backyard Chicken Permitted (Section 4.2 (j))	
Mailing Address (If different than above)	
Telephone Number	
Email	

APPLICANT’S DECLARATION:

I \_\_\_\_\_ (name of Applicant(s))  
hereby declare:

1. That I have read and understood the following documents:
  - a. Bird Health Basics – Canadian Food Inspection Agency
  - b. Small Flock Poultry: Raising Healthy Birds – Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)
  - c. Rodent Control in Livestock and Poultry Facilities – Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)
  - d. Keeping your family healthy with backyard poultry, including chicks and ducklings – Ministry of Health
2. That I will provide for suitable housing and shelter of the chickens in my care and will maintain such housing in a clean and wholesome state having regard for Biosecurity Recommendations for Small Flock Owners.
3. That I will provide the chickens in my care with appropriate food, water, space, and environmental conditions to good health and the opportunity to socialize and engage in fundamental behaviours such as scratching, roosting and dust bathing.
4. That I have read and understood the Backyard Chickens By-Law and will abide by the provisions within it.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

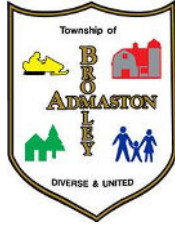
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

Where the applicant is a tenant, the signature of the landowner is required below confirming that they are aware of and support the application for keeping of Backyard Chickens on the property indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Property Owner

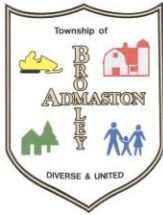
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

**BY-LAW 2023-61 – SCHEDULE “B”**



**TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY**

**SAMPLE PERMIT**



**BACKYARD CHICKEN PERMIT**

**Permit NUMBER: 2021-01**

**Permitter**

Township of Admaston/Bromley — 477 Stone Road, Renfrew, ON K7V 3Z5

**Name of Permit Holder**

Chicken Little

**Property Address for Backyard Chickens**

5226 Queen Street, Douglas, ON K0J 1S0

**Number of Backyard Chickens Permitted**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mailing Address**

5226 Queen Street, Douglas, ON K0J 1S0

**Category/Descriptive**

Backyard Chicken Permit

**This permit has been issued in accordance with the requirements of the Township of Admaston/Bromley BY-LAW 2023-xx and is subject to revocation or suspension for cause and is not transferable.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAO/Clerk or Treasurer-Deputy CAO/Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY**

**Part 1 Provincial Offences Act**

**By-Law No. 2023-61**

**Backyard Chickens By-Law**

**Schedule "C"**

**Schedule of Fines**

Item	Column 1 Short Form Wording	Column 2 Provision creating or defining offence	Column 3 Set fine
1	No Permit for Backyard Chickens	4.2 (a)	\$100
2	Roosters are being kept	4.2 (b)	\$100
3	No Chicken Coop provided for Backyard Chickens	4.2 (d)	\$100
4	Chicken Coop does not follow set backs as provided	4.2 (h), (i) and (j)	\$100
5	Too many chickens on the property	4.2 (l)	\$100
6	Permit Holder does not reside on property	4.2 (n)	\$100
7	No fence	4.2 (p)	\$100
8	Chicken Coop Not Maintained	4.2 (q)	\$100
9	Chickens at Large	4.2 (v)	\$100

NOTE: The general penalty provisions for the offences listed above is section 2 of By-Law 2023-61, a certified copy of which is on file.