

The Corporation of the Town of East Gwillimbury

By-law 2024-004

Being a By-law to amend the Animal Care and Control By-law

Whereas on the 20th day of October, 2020 the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town of East Gwillimbury (“**Council**”) enacted By-law 2020-085 the Animal Care and Control By-law; and

Whereas Council deems it appropriate to amend Animal Care and Control By-law 2020-085;

Now therefore the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town of East Gwillimbury enacts as follows:

1. That Section 14 of By-law 2020-085 is revoked and the following substituted:

14.0 Residential Backyard Hens

Licence

- 14.1 No Person, within the Town, shall keep Hens on a Residential Property without first being issued a Licence under this By-law.
- 14.2 Every applicant shall submit all required application documents, as outlined in this By-law and pay a \$100 Licensing fee.
- 14.3 All applications for a Licence to keep Hens on a Residential Property shall include:
 - (a) The name, contact email, phone number and address of the applicant where Hens will be kept;
 - (b) The number of Hens to be kept on the Property;
 - (c) A site plan of the property, showing all buildings and structures, including the proposed locations of the Hen coop and Hen run, as well as the dimensions and setbacks; and
 - (d) Any other documentation, deemed necessary by the Manager.
- 14.4 Once the application materials have been reviewed and the application has been approved, it is the responsibility of the licensee to contact the Town to arrange for a site inspection to be conducted by an Officer.
- 14.5 The applicant shall provide a signed declaration stating that the applicant reviewed the required education package provided by the Town regarding the keeping of Hens in a safe and secure manner.

- 14.6 The Town may issue a Licence with or without conditions, refuse a Licence, and/or revoke a Licence.
- 14.7 The Licence may be revoked if:
- (a) The licensee fails to comply with any conditions upon which the Licence was issued or fails to comply with any provision of this By-law;
 - (b) The Licence was issued in error, or as a result of mistake, false or incorrect information; and
 - (c) The licensee fails to install the Hen coop and Hen run on the property by no later than twelve (12) weeks after the Licence is issued.
- 14.8 A change of ownership shall make the Licence null and void.

General Provisions

- 14.9 No Person shall Keep more than four (4) Hens on a lot in any zone, except in a rural zone.
- 14.10 The applicant or licensee must reside on the property where the Hens are kept.
- 14.11 Hen coops shall only be permitted in the rear yard.
- 14.12 Hen coops and Hen runs shall be maintained in a Sanitary Condition and the coop shall be kept free of obnoxious odours, substances, and vermin.
- 14.13 Every Hen owner shall ensure that the enclosure is located no less than three (3) metres from any dwelling, shop, or apartment building, and no less than two (2) metres from any adjoining property line.
- 14.14 Hens must be kept in a locked Hen enclosure from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- 14.15 Hens must be at least 4 months old when acquired.
- 14.16 The sale of eggs, manure and other products associated with the keeping of Hens are prohibited.
- 14.17 Any leftover feed and manure shall be removed.
- 14.18 Stored manure shall be kept in an enclosed structure or container such as a compost bin, stored no less than one (1) metre from any adjoining property line and no more than three (3) cubic feet shall be stored at any one time. All other manure not used for composting or fertilizing shall be removed.
- 14.19 Maximum of one (1) Hen coop, and one (1) outdoor run shall be permitted.

- 14.20 A hen enclosure shall be a maximum ground floor of 9.0 m².
- 14.21 Hen coops shall be at least 0.37 m² of floor area per hen, along with a minimum of 0.93 m² per Hen for the Hen run.
- 14.22 Hen coops and Hen runs shall not exceed 3 m in height.
- 14.23 No Person shall Keep a rooster in any residential zone.
- 14.24 Home slaughter of Hens is prohibited in a residential zone.
- 14.25 Deceased Hens shall be disposed of at a livestock disposal facility or through the services of a veterinarian.
- 14.26 Hens shall be confined to an enclosed Hen coop or Hen run at all times. The free roaming of Hens on the property is prohibited.
- 14.27 Hen coops shall have adequate ventilation and shall be weather and predator proof.
- 14.28 Hens shall be provided with appropriate food, water, space and environmental conditions conducive to good health and the opportunity to socialize and engage in fundamental behaviours such as scratching, roosting and dust bathing.
- 14.29 Feeders and water containers shall be provided and cleaned regularly and disinfected.
- 14.30 Feed shall be stored in rodent proof containers and secured at all times to prevent rodents and other animals from accessing it.
- 14.31 Notwithstanding, Hen coops and Hen runs shall meet all other requirements for an accessory structure as outlined in the Town's Zoning By-law.

2. That this By-law shall come into force and effect on the date of its passing and enactment.

Enacted and passed this 16th day of January, 2024.



Brian Johns, Acting Mayor



Tara Lajevardi, Municipal Clerk