

## **ORDINANCE 2017:1442**

### **ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR KEEPING BACKYARD HENS IN THE BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS**

#### PROGRAM

This Ordinance establishes a pilot program to authorize residents of the Borough of Haddon Heights to keep backyard hens subject to certain Rules and Regulations.

#### TERM OF PROGRAM

- A. This pilot program shall terminate two (2) years from the effective date of this Ordinance but may be continued or extended by the Borough of Haddon Heights prior to termination by action of the Governing Body.
- B. In the event that the Borough of Haddon Heights does not act to continue or extend the program, those individuals who are included in this pilot program shall be permitted to keep their hens but may not add any hens and said individuals shall continue to act pursuant to the rules and regulations of this program.

#### PARTICIPATION; LOCATION; NUMBER RESTRICTED

- A. The following shall be eligible to participate in the pilot program; residents of single family homes or residents of "twin" or "row" homes which meet the criteria set forth in this section.
- B. For purposes of this pilot program, no more than twenty (20) licenses will be issued at \$25.00 each for the term of the pilot.
- C. There shall be a limit of four (4) hens per license. Roosters are prohibited.
- D. The coop and run, located in the backyard, shall not exceed 120 square feet and shall be located no closer than 20 feet from the windows and/or doors of the habitable portion of the neighboring residential dwelling. Garages, attached or otherwise, and accessory buildings shall not be considered a "residential dwelling" for purposes of calculating the required distance. Hens may temporarily "free range" outside of the coop in a suitably contained area provided that an adult, age eighteen (18) or older is present the entire time. A predator-proof run must be attached to the coop and must also be 20 feet from the habitable portion of the neighboring residential dwelling.

#### LICENSE REQUIRED; FEE; EXPIRATION; CLASS

- A. No person shall keep hens on their property without first obtaining a license from the Municipal Clerk's Office and paying the required fee. No license shall be issued unless the applicant has demonstrated compliance with all criteria set forth in the pilot.
- B. A non-refundable, one-time license fee of \$25.00 shall be paid for each license issued for participation in this 2 year pilot program. No more than one license may be issued per household.
- C. Each applicant wishing to participate in the pilot program to keep backyard hens shall be required to take a class on the basics of raising backyard hens. Proof of attendance must be presented with the completed application.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR COOPS

Participant shall comply with the following regulations and conditions for keeping and housing of hens:

- A. The coop shall be suitable in size to house the number of hens subject to this pilot program.
- B. The coop shall be dry and well ventilated with windows to admit sunlight.
- C. The coop must be kept clean.
- D. The coop and enclosed run must be made predator-proof.
- E. Clean water must be provided, and food must be kept tightly closed in a metal container away from the coop and run at night.
- F. The yard in the area where the coop is located shall be clean and free from odors.
- G. Waste will be handled by the participant to prevent offensive odors or disposed in an environmentally-friendly manner.
- H. There shall be no selling of eggs.

#### CREATION OF "HEN ADVISORY BOARD; COMPLAINTS

- A. A Hen Advisory Board consisting of eight (8) members shall be formed, including a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. The Board shall meet on a regular basis and keep minutes which shall be submitted along with quarterly report to the Liaison for Borough Council. These reports will include any activities of the Board, as well as any complaints and resolutions from residents concerning backyard hens.
- B. If a complaint is received by the Borough, it will be forwarded to the Hen Advisory Board for investigation by two members of the Board. If the Board finds a violation of the pilot regulations, solutions will be discussed with the offending resident to allow them to meet the requirements of the

pilot program as soon as possible. However, if after thirty (30) days, the violation has been remedied, the Council liaison will be notified so that enforcement proceedings can be implanted.

REVOCAION OF LICENSE

Failure to comply with the conditions and regulations set forth in the pilot program shall result in revocation of the license.

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**ORDINANCE 2018:1447**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2017:1442 ENTITLED -  
ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR KEEPING BACKYARD HENS IN THE  
BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Haddon Heights implemented a two (2) year pilot through the creation of a program authorizing residents of the Borough of Haddon Heights to keep backyard hens subject to certain Rules and Regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council desires to amend the Ordinance as set forth herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Haddon Heights as follows:

Section 1: Section C of the Ordinance providing for **Participation; Location; Number Restricted**, shall be amended to increase the number of hens per license from four (4) to eight (8).

Section 2: All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 3: If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section 4: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication a required by law.