

**CITY OF BROWNSVILLE
TITLE – ANIMAL REGULATIONS**

CHAPTER 5 – ANIMAL CONTROL

SECTION 6: Chickens

A. DEFINITIONS. The term “chicken coop” means a temporary structure for housing chickens. The structure is to be made of wood or other similar materials that provides shelter from the elements. The term “chicken run” means an enclosed outside yard for keeping chickens. The term “premises” means any platted lot or group of contiguous lots, parcels or tracts of land.

Must be removed from the property if not housing chickens.

B. CHICKENS LIMITED. It is unlawful for any person to keep or harbor chickens on any premises without a permit. No permit should be issued for the keeping or harboring of more than six hen chickens on any premises. No permit shall be issued for the keeping of any rooster chicken on any premises.

C. PERMIT. No person shall maintain a chicken coop and run unless they have been granted a permit. The permit shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this chapter and any additional conditions deemed necessary by the Council to protect the public health, safety and welfare. The necessary permit applications will be available in the City Clerk’s office. Included with the completed application must be a scaled diagram that indicates the location of any chicken coop and run, the approximate size and distance from adjoining structures and property lines and approval from 50 percent of the adjacent property owners. A fee of \$5.00 per chicken will be charged for each permit which shall expire on May 31st of each year of the permit.

D. CONFINEMENT. Every person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens must keep them confined at all times while in the City in a chicken coop or chicken run. Any coop and run shall be screened with a solid fence or landscaped buffer with minimum height of four feet. Any coop and run shall be at least 25 feet from any residential structure on any other premises and no closer than 10 feet from the property line.

E. CHICKEN COOPS. All chicken coops and runs must be located at least 25 feet from any dwelling on any other premises and must not exceed six feet in total height. Chicken runs may be enclosed with wood and/or woven wire materials, and allow chickens to contact the ground. Chicken feed must be kept in rodent and raccoon-proof containers.

F. CONDITIONS. No person who owns, keeps or harbors hen chickens shall permit the premises where the hen chickens are kept to be or remain in an unhealthy, unsanitary or noxious condition or to permit the premises to be in such condition that noxious odors are carried to adjacent public or private property. Any chicken coop and run may be inspected at any reasonable time by a City animal control official or other agent of the city.

G. AGRICULTURE ZONED land located in the City is exempt from this ordinance.

H. PENALTY. A Violation is a misdemeanor. Refer to Chapter 5, Section 2, Subd 4 – Enforcement/Penalty.

Approved by the Brownsville City Council this 11th day of July 2018.

Timothy P. Serres

Mayor

Attest: Michael J. Moriarty

City Clerk

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