



Backyard Chicken

Frequently Asked Questions



- **What is the purpose of the pilot program?**

The two-year pilot program authorizes up to 25 residents to raise chickens for producing eggs. The program was designed to provide information to the town, to show how to keep backyard chickens safe, and to not disturb our neighbors.
- **Where can I find the ordinance on backyard chickens?**

You can find a copy of the ordinance on the borough website, under the Chicken Advisory tab under Boards.
- **How much does it cost to participate in the pilot program?**

There is an annual \$10 license fee paid upon approval.
- **What are the requirements to participate?**
 - Complete Pilot Program Application.
 - Live in a single-family home on a minimum of ½ acre.
 - Complete a class of your choice on the basics of raising backyard chickens and submit a copy of proof of class or class certificate.
- **How many licenses are available for the pilot program?**

25 pilot program licenses.
- **Can I sell my eggs or eat my chickens?**

No, eggs cannot be sold under the State's horticulture law. There will also be no slaughtering of chickens in the borough.
- **Where can I go for help if I'm having trouble raising chickens?**

You can go to the borough website under the Chicken Advisory Board tab, there are links that can help you answer any question about raising backyard chickens. If you require further assistance, you can email your question to the Chicken Advisory Board.
- **How long is the pilot program?**

2 years.
- **Will the pilot program extend after two years?**

When the pilot program reaches two years, and the Chicken Advisory Board has determined that residents raising chickens in the borough is safe for the chickens and keeps neighbors happy. The board will adjust the ordinance, if needed, and can issue more chicken licenses to residents.
- **What certificates does an applicant need?**

Certificate of completion on the basics of raising backyard chickens' class, and Certificate of approval from the Chicken Advisory Board.
- **Why does the applicant need to take a class?**

It is meant to support our residents on the knowledge on raising chickens, so they are prepared for the program.
- **How many chickens can I have?**

You are allowed to have 4 chickens during the pilot program. The advisory board can increase that number after the program is complete and successful.
- **Can I free range my chickens?**

Yes, temporarily in a suitable fenced area under the constant supervision on an adult.
- **How big does my coop and run need to be?**

The coop shall be at a minimum of at least 4 square feet per chicken with the maximum height of 7 feet.
- **Can I raise roosters?**

No, roosters are prohibited.
- **What are the required setbacks for the coop and run?**

The coop and run shall be no closer than 20 feet from any habitable portion the neighboring dwelling.
- **Do I need a fence in my backyard?**

A perimeter fence must be predator proof so that chickens are not able to escape the property and neighboring animals, or children cannot tamper with the coop.
- **What if I am approved to participate in the pilot program but I decide not to have chickens?**

Email the Chicken Advisory Board so that we can offer next in line your license to raise chicken.