



## PLANNING & COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

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### **Section 6-301 - Poultry**

#### **Raising Backyard Poultry**

Homeowners in Cedar Falls may keep up to ten female poultry in any combination in a residential backyard. Both a land use permit and a poultry license are necessary. The owner of the poultry must reside on the premises where the poultry is located.

*Poultry* means one or more domesticated chicken, turkey, goose, duck, quail, dove, pheasant or pigeon.

*Poultry Coop* means a structure for housing poultry

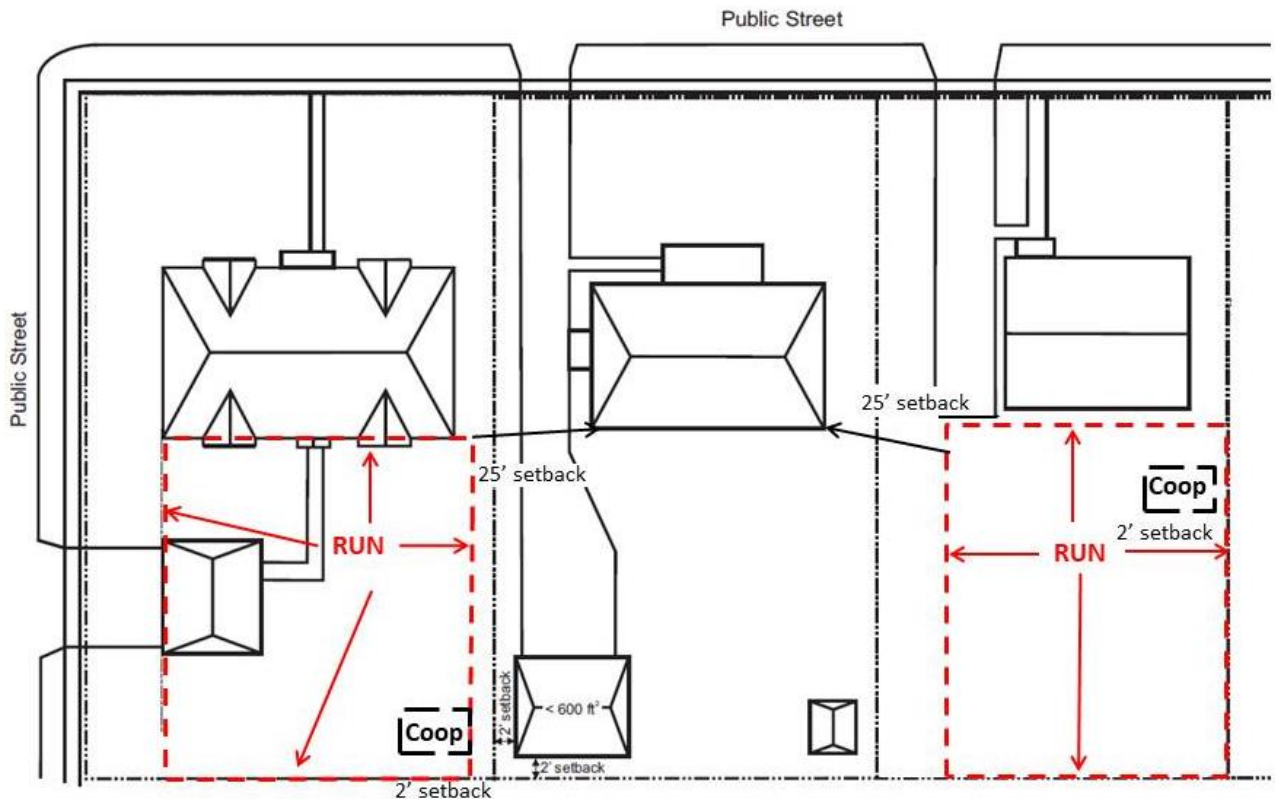
*Poultry Run* means an enclosed outdoor area for poultry to roam.

Both a poultry coop and run are required for the keeping of poultry. Poultry shall be kept within these confines at all times and the coop or run shall be kept in reasonable clean, sound, safe and sanitary condition.

#### **Locating poultry coops and runs**

A land use permit is required to keep poultry in a residential district. A property owner shall submit an application to the Planning and Community Services Division along with a site plan showing the location and size of the poultry run and the coop. Material used for the construction of a poultry coop must be similar in appearance and quality to the main structure or accessory structure on the property unless purchased as an item advertised as a complete, standalone poultry confinement structure. Poultry coops larger than 120 square feet in size will require a building permit. All poultry coops and runs shall be of a size to appropriately contain the number of poultry kept on site with adequate access for the care and maintenance of it.

The coop or run must be located farther than 25 feet from dwellings on adjacent properties. Corner lots must meet a greater side yard setback, to be in line with the house (this also applies to sheds and garages). In addition, a poultry coop shall be at least two feet from any side or rear property line. (see examples below)



Owner must reside on property where poultry is located.  
 Coop or run must be 25 feet from nearest dwelling  
 Coop must be 2ft. from rear and side property line  
 Corner lot – "in-line" with the house on longer street side

Land Use Permit application can be obtained at <https://www.cedarfalls.com/1186/Applications-and-Forms>. Completed applications can be sent to [planning@cedarfalls.com](mailto:planning@cedarfalls.com). Once a land use permit has been obtained, the applicant can then apply to for a poultry license, which can be obtained at City Hall.

### Disposal of Waste

Poultry manure and litter may be placed in the regular trash if bagged in the same manner as dog waste. Composting of litter and waste may be handled on site if care is taken to insure that the composting does not create odor, flies or other nuisances. *Resources for composting manure:* <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ASC/ASC241/ASC241.pdf>

### Disposal of dead poultry

Dead poultry cannot be placed in the garbage or yard waste containers. The Black Hawk County landfill does not accept poultry for disposal.

*Cremation services are offered by the following organizations:* Cedar Bend Humane Society, Memories-Pet Loss Center (Other local veterinarians may offer as well.)

*Resources for Care of Poultry:* <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/smallfarms/establishing-backyard-poultry-flock>, <https://poultry.extension.org/>, <https://extension.umn.edu/small-scale-poultry/raising-chickens-eggs>

#### Notes:

- No regulation on "smooth" side of fence facing inward or outward. Property owners are responsible for verifying the location of the lot lines.
- Fences shall be constructed of materials commonly used for landscape fencing, such as masonry, block, lumber or chain link, but shall not include corrugated sheetmetal, barbed wire or salvage material, or be electrified.
- Property owners are encouraged to "call before they dig". Iowa One Call at 811 or 1.800.292.8989

Complete details for backyard poultry can be found in Section 6-301 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Cedar Falls. If you have any questions regarding a fence permit, please feel free to contact the Planning & Community Services Division at 319.273.8600