

1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
2 OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA, RELATING TO BACKYARD  
3 CHICKENS; ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE  
4 ISSUANCE OF BACKYARD CHICKEN PERMITS AND  
5 THE KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS; PROVIDING  
6 FOR CIVIL PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS,  
7 AND FOR SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION,  
8 CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, AND AN  
9 EFFECTIVE DATE.

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11 **WHEREAS**, there is increased interest in backyard and community food  
12 production to provide local food sources; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, many communities in Florida and throughout the United States have  
15 been enacting regulations to compatibly integrate the keeping of backyard chickens into  
16 urban residential settings; and

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18 **WHEREAS**, chickens can make good pets, and findings indicate that four are  
19 sufficient to meet the needs of the average family's egg consumption; and

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21 **WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Orlando, Florida (the "Orlando City  
22 Council"), recognizes the desire of all residents to live in a clean environment free of  
23 excessive odor, noise, vermin and disease; and

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25 **WHEREAS**, the City enacted a two-year pilot program to allow staff to assess the  
26 backyard chicken program and desires to make the program permanent; and

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28 **WHEREAS**, the Orlando City Council hereby finds and declares that this  
29 ordinance is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

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31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY**  
32 **OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

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34 **SECTION 1. Recitals.** The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference  
35 and form an integral part of this Ordinance.

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37 **SECTION 2. CHAPTER 6, AMENDED.** Chapter 6, Code of the City of Orlando,  
38 Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 \*\*\*\*

40 **ARTICLE III.-Backyard Chickens**

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42 **Sec. 6.19. – General Conditions for the keeping of backyard chickens.**

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44 Any person keeping chickens as an accessory to an occupied dwelling shall be  
45 subject to the following restrictions:

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47 (1) Permit Required. A Backyard Chicken permit (hereinafter "permit"), is  
48 required for the keeping of chickens. The permit is personal to the permittee  
49 and may not be assigned. If the person applying for the permit is not the fee  
50 simple owner of the subject property, the fee simple owner must provide

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-79

- 51 owner authorization and consent to the application. The fee for the permit will  
52 be set by Resolution of the Orlando City Council.
- 53 (2) Up to four chickens may be kept at an occupied single family residence upon  
54 receiving a permit from the City.
- 55 (3) Ducks, geese, turkeys, peafowl, male chickens/roosters, pigeons, or any  
56 other poultry or fowl are not allowed.
- 57 (4) Chickens are not allowed on duplex, triplex, townhomes, multifamily  
58 properties, community gardens, or any other uses.
- 59 (5) Chickens must be secured within a covered chicken coop, chicken tractor, or  
60 fenced pen/run area at all times and are not allowed to run at large upon any  
61 public properties or off the premises of the owner. The coop and pen/run area  
62 must be completely secured from predators with hardware cloth or similar  
63 material. Chicken wire shall not be used.
- 64 (6) The coop and pen/run area must be cleaned regularly and kept free of  
65 insects and rodents. Odors from chickens, chicken manure, or other items  
66 associated with the keeping of chickens must not be perceptible at the  
67 property boundaries. Chickens must not be permitted to create a nuisance  
68 consisting of noise or pests, or contribute to any other nuisance condition.
- 69 (7) No manure may be allowed to accumulate on the floor of the coop or ground.  
70 All feed and other items associated with the keeping of chickens that are  
71 likely to attract or to become infested with rodents or other pests shall be kept  
72 in a rodent and pest-proof container.
- 73 (8) Composting of chicken manure is allowed in an enclosed bin. The  
74 composting bin shall be kept at least 20 feet away from all property lines.
- 75 (9) Chickens must be kept for personal use only. Selling chickens, eggs,  
76 feathers, or chicken manure, or the breeding of chickens is prohibited.
- 77 (10) Chickens may not be slaughtered on premises.
- 78 (11) Any person who violates any provision of the article will, upon conviction, be  
79 punished as provided in Section 1.08 of this Code. Additionally, the planning  
80 official has the sole discretion to revoke the permit and require that the  
81 chickens be removed within 10 days if he or she determines that the  
82 permittee is in violation of the requirements of the Code.

83 **SECTION 3. SEC. 58.901, AMENDED.** Section 58.901, Code of the City of  
84 Orlando, Florida, is hereby amended as follows:

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86 (j) Backyard Chicken Coop Accessory Structures.

- 87 1. Chicken coops must be located in the rear yard (behind the home). No coop  
88 will be allowed in any front or side yard.

- 89            2. The coop, pen, or chicken tractor must be a minimum of 20 feet from any  
 90            neighboring residential homes, at least 5 feet from the principal structure on  
 91            the subject property, and at least 5 feet from any property line. The coop,  
 92            pen, or chicken tractor may be placed 0 feet from the property line if placed  
 93            adjacent to a masonry wall on property in a non-residential zoning district. A  
 94            0 foot setback is allowed between a coop and another accessory structure on  
 95            the subject property.
- 96            3. Chicken coops must be less than 50 square feet and may have an attached  
 97            run. The coop must also be tied down for wind resistance.
- 98            4. An applicant for a permit must demonstrate compliance with the criteria in  
 99            the Code in order to obtain a permit. The application for a permit must be  
 100           submitted to the planning official. Applicants must submit photos of the  
 101           proposed site of the coop/run areas, a survey/site plan of the subject  
 102           property showing the location, and proof of successful completion of a  
 103           University of Florida Agricultural Extension Service class or an equivalent  
 104           class approved by the planning official.
- 105           5. A planning official determination is required for a permit. The planning  
 106           official is authorized to implement reasonable rules and regulations  
 107           regarding backyard chickens. The planning official must not approve  
 108           locations with outstanding code violations.
- 109           6. No more than 100 permits will be issued citywide. Permits will be issued on  
 110           a first-come, first-served basis. If a participant chooses to leave the  
 111           program, he/she must provide notice to the City. The City is then authorized  
 112           to re-issue the permit to another qualified applicant. If a participant is  
 113           removed from the program due to violations of the terms of this ordinance,  
 114           his/her permit may also be re-issued to another qualified applicant.

115            **SECTION 4. SEC. 5.19, AMENDED.** Section 5.19, Code of the City of Orlando,  
 116 Florida, is hereby amended as follows:

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 118            **Sec. 5.19. - Classes of Violations and Reduced Civil Penalties.**

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 120            (1) Violations of city codes and ordinances, and the applicable reduced civil  
 121 penalties, shall be as follows:  
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Violation Classifications	Reduced Civil Penalty		
	First Offense	Second Offense	Third and Subsequent Offense
Class I	\$ 50.00	\$100.00	Court Hearing Mandatory
Class II	100.00	200.00	"
Class III	150.00	300.00	"
Class IV	200.00	400.00	"

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-79

Class V	500.00	500.00	"
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(2) Violations of City codes and ordinances which constitute civil infractions for which citations may be issued are as follows:

Code/Ordinance Chapter or Section	Description	Class
CH. 6, CONTROL AND REGULATION OF ANIMALS		
Sec. 6.01	Removal of excreta by any animal on public property	II
<u>Sec. 6.19</u>	<u>Compliance with backyard chicken restrictions</u>	<u>II</u>
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**SECTION 5. CONFLICTS.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail in the event of conflict with the provisions of any existing ordinance.

**SECTION 6. CODIFICATION.** The city clerk and the city attorney shall cause the Code of the City of Orlando, Florida, to be amended as provided by this ordinance and may renumber, re-letter, and rearrange the codified parts of this ordinance if necessary to facilitate the finding of the law.

**SECTION 7. SCRIVENER'S ERROR.** The city attorney may correct scrivener's errors found in this ordinance by filing a corrected copy of this ordinance with the city clerk.

**SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

**SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This ordinance is effective upon adoption.

**DONE, THE FIRST READING,** by the City Council of the City of Orlando, Florida, at a regular meeting, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

**DONE, THE PUBLIC NOTICE,** in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Orlando, Florida, by the City Clerk of the City of Orlando, Florida, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

**DONE, THE SECOND READING, THE PUBLIC HEARING, AND ENACTED ON FINAL PASSAGE,** by an affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum present of the City

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-79

157 Council of the City of Orlando, Florida, at a regular meeting, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
158 \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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160 BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF  
161 ORLANDO, FLORIDA:

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164 \_\_\_\_\_  
165 Mayor

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168 ATTEST, BY THE CLERK OF THE  
169 CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
170 ORLANDO, FLORIDA:

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172 \_\_\_\_\_  
173 City Clerk

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175 \_\_\_\_\_  
176 Print Name

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179 THIS ORDINANCE DRAFTED BY AND  
180 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY  
181 FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE  
182 CITY OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA:

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184 \_\_\_\_\_  
185 City Attorney

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187 \_\_\_\_\_  
188 Print Name  
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