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# **THE CITY OF NORTHLAKE**

**COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

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## **ORDINANCE**

**NUMBER O-06-2023**

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### **AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING THE POSSESSION AND MAINTENANCE OF HENS AND AMENDING TITLE 5 OF THE NORTHLAKE CITY CODE**

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**JEFFREY T. SHERWIN, Mayor**

**NANCY PAULETTO, Clerk**

**JAIME S. CONTRERAS**

**PENNY FELDMANN**

**ART GARCIA**

**RICHARD GROCHOWSKI**

**NORMAN JOHNSON**

**FRANCINE PATTI**

**PAUL STRAUBE**

**JUAN URBINA**

**Aldermen**

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AND MAINTENANCE OF HENS AND AMENDING TITLE 5  
OF THE NORTHLAKE CITY CODE**

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**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Northlake, in the exercise of Northlake's home rule powers Illinois as follows:

**SECTION 1:** Section 5-5-3 of the Northlake City Code is amended to read as follows:

**5-5-3 Certain Animals Prohibited:**

No person shall keep any live swine, poultry, rabbits, cattle, horses, sheep, goats in the City provided that this prohibition shall not apply to hens.

**SECTION 2:** Title 5 of the Northlake City Code is amended by adding the following as Article 5B:

**HENS**

**5-5B-1 Definitions**

The following words and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them:

- A. Chicken – An individual animal of the species *Gallus gallus domesticus*.
- B. Hen – The female of the species *Gallus gallus domesticus* or chicken.
- C. Rooster – The male of the species *Gallus gallus domesticus* or chicken.
- D. Coop – A structure that is designed to house hens which is enclosed on all sides with a roof, door and windows.
- E. Run – An outdoor area that is enclosed on all vertical sides by fencing. The run must be attached to or must surround a coop with a doorway or hatch that allows access into the space by hens.
- F. Dwelling unit – A single family residence located in an R-1 residential district on a lot of record consisting of at least 7,500 square feet.

**5-5B-1**

- A. No person shall possess a hen unless a license has been issued as set forth in this article.
- B. The number of hens allowed shall be a maximum of six (6) hens per Dwelling Unit.
- C. Roosters are prohibited within the City.

D. Licenses will only be granted to persons who reside in a single-family Dwelling Unit.

E. Care for hens shall follow the following provisions:

1. No hen shall be permitted to run at large. Hens shall be kept in a designated coop or run. Hens may be allowed to exercise in a rear yard with a six foot (6') or higher fence with supervision.

i. If the coop and run are not within a fenced yard, hens must be kept within the coop and run at all times.

ii. Fences must meet the standards outlined in Title 9, Chapter 5 of the City Code.

2. Feed must be stored in a fully enclosed, rodent proof container.

F. Housing for hens shall follow the following provisions:

1. The coop and run shall be located in the rear of the residential structure. The coop and run are allowed in the rear yard, but not the side or front yards.

2. The coop and run shall be located at least 10 feet (10') from all property lines and at least twenty feet (20') from any neighboring dwelling.

3. Design. The coop must be built to provide ventilation, shade, protection from precipitation, protection from cold weather and to be secure from predators, wild birds and rodents.

i. Openings in windows and doors must be covered by wire mesh or screens to deter predators.

ii. Access doors must be sized and placed for ease of cleaning.

iii. The enclosed run must be attached to the coop or must surround the coop. The sides of the run must be made of fencing or wire mesh that discourages predators.

iv. The run must be enclosed on all sides, including the top or roof plane.

4. Size. The coop shall provide a minimum of four (4) square feet of floor area per hen. The run shall provide a minimum of eight (8) square feet of floor area per hen.

i. Coops will be considered an accessory building as defined in Section 8-8-1 of the City Code and must meet all standards outlined therein.



- ii. Coops shall not exceed 50 square feet in size shall require a building permit prior to construction.
- 5. The coop and run shall be kept in a clean, dry and sanitary condition at all times. Manure, uneaten and discarded feed, feathers and other waste must be removed regularly and at a minimum of once per week.
  - i. Odors from hens, manure or related substances shall not be detectable from any property line.
  - ii. Manure must be stored and disposed of. Manure may be composted. All manure not composted must be removed from property regularly and at a minimum of once per week.
  - iii. The sale of eggs shall be prohibited.
  - iv. Breeding of chickens shall be prohibited.
- G. No person shall maintain a coop without first obtaining a license from the City.
  - 1. The City may deny a license to any person who:
    - i. Owes money to the City; or
    - ii. has, in the last five (5) years prior to application for a license under this Section been convicted or plead guilty to any violation of the City Code.
  - 2. All licenses pursuant to this article shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance. Licenses may be automatically renewed if the licensee has been in compliance during the previous year.
  - 3. Only persons residing in Dwelling Units are eligible for a license.
  - 4. Only one coop license will be issued per zoning lot. A zoning lot consisting of multiple platted lots shall be considered one lot.
  - 5. Coop licenses are non-transferable.
  - 6. Costs:
    - i. The coop license shall cost \$25.00. This license shall renew automatically if the licensee is in compliance with all standards set forth in this article.

The owner of the coop is subject to the following additional penalties:

1. A person found to be keeping hens without a coop license will have seven (7) days from notification to achieve compliance with this article.
2. A licensee found to be in violation of the standards outlined in this article shall have seven (7) days from notification to achieve compliance. If compliance is not achieved, the license shall be revoked. The licensee may apply for a new license, subject to site inspection.
3. If a licensee is found to be in violation of these standards three or more times, the license will be immediately and permanently revoked.
4. Any violation of this article shall be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). Each day that a violation exists is a separate and separate offense.

H. Hens, coops and runs not maintained according to this article shall be deemed a public nuisance.

**SECTION 3:** If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any of the other provisions of this ordinance.

**SECTION 4:** All ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 5:** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

**ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023 pursuant to a roll call as follows:

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
Contreras				
Feldmann				
Garcia				
Grochowski				
Johnson				
Patti				
Straube				
Urbina				
(Mayor Sherwin)				
<b>TOTAL</b>				

**APPROVED** by the Mayor on March 6, 2023.

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Jeffrey T. Sherwin  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Nancy Pauletto  
City Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS

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COUNTY OF COOK

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**CERTIFICATION**

I, Nancy Pauletto, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I am the duly qualified and elected Clerk of the City of Northlake, Cook County, Illinois, and that as such Clerk I do have charge of and custody of the books and records of the City of Northlake, Cook County, Illinois.

I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Ordinance No. O-06-2023. "AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING THE POSSESSION AND MAINTENANCE OF HENS AND AMENDING TITLE 5 OF THE NORTHLAKE CITY CODE," adopted and approved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Northlake, Illinois on March 6, 2023.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my hand and the Corporate Seal of the City of Northlake, Cook County, Illinois this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

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Nancy Pauletto  
City Clerk  
City of Northlake  
Cook County, Illinois

