

CHICKEN UPDATE June 9, 2009

On June 9th City Council amended the backyard chicken ordinance so that 22 individuals on a waiting list could be issued a chicken hen permit. The amendment to the ordinance will also enable individuals that were keeping chickens prior to February 1, 2009 **without a permit** to be issued a permit as long as the permit is pulled by July 17th and if they can reasonably demonstrate that they were keeping chickens prior to February 1. For those individuals that were keeping chickens prior to February 1, a written letter from an adjacent property owner with their name and address, along with photographs of the chicken(s) and coop shall be deemed adequate evidence.

Please print out the Chicken Hen Permit Application by clicking on the link in the main Back Yard Chickens page before this update. Read all of the rules for keeping chickens, and fill out the required information. Lastly, sign and date the application. Please submit your permit with a plot plan of your property and be certain to denote the size of your coop on your plan. When you come in to get your permit, you will be informed as to whether your coop's placement and size is consistent with the regulations.

The City will begin issuing the second round of permits on Monday, June 22, 2009 at the Development Services Center located at 385 Kimbark Street. If you are one of the 22 individuals on the waiting list, you are guaranteed a permit, so there's no need to rush. For all others, amnesty for chickens kept prior to February 1, 2009 ends on July 17 so be certain to make this deadline if you want permits for your chickens.