

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE
CODE OF THE COUNTY OF DINWIDDIE, 1985, AS AMENDED,
BY ADDING SECTION 22-244.1, KEEPING OF CHICKENS IN THE R-R,
RESIDENTIAL, CONSERVATIVE, DISTRICT
CHAPTER 22, ZONING,
ARTICLE V. SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS.**

BE IT RECOMMENDED by the Planning Commission of Dinwiddie County:

(1) *That Chapter 22 of the Code of the County of Dinwiddie, 1985, as amended, is amended by inserting the following language shown underlined and deleting the following language marked as strikethrough:*

Sec. 22-244.1. - Keeping of chickens in the R-R, Residential, Conservative, District.

Keeping and housing chickens on R-R, Residential, Conservative, District zoned and occupied property shall be solely for purposes of household consumption and shall comply with the following requirements.

(a) Chickens allowed pursuant to this section shall be kept and raised only for domestic purposes and no commercial activity such as selling eggs or selling chickens for meat shall be allowed. (However, their by-products such as eggs may be sold off-site at farmers' markets or at retail stores as regulated by the applicable state and federal agencies.) Harvesting of chickens is not permitted.

(b) No more than twelve (12) female chickens (hens) shall be allowed. No male chickens (roosters) shall be allowed.

(c) All chickens shall be tagged by the owner for identification purposes.

(d) Persons who keep chickens shall not permit them to travel at large on the premises, in the streets, public places, or anywhere outside of an enclosed structure.

(e) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or cause to be kept any chicken within 50 feet of any structure owned by another person and used for human habitation, occupation, or assemblage.

(f) Coops or cages and runs shall only be located in the rear yard area of the property. The zoning administrator may grant an exception to this requirement in cases where due to unusual lot configuration, topography, or proximity of neighbors, another area of the yard is more suitable for such an activity. No chickens, coops or cages and runs shall be located in any front yard area of the property.

(g) Coops or cages and runs shall be situated at least thirty-five (35) feet from adjoining property lines.

(h) Coops or cages and runs shall be completely enclosed with chicken wire fence or similar predator-resistant fencing. All coops, cages, or runs shall provide at least two (2) square feet of area per chicken. Neither the coops or cages and runs shall exceed ten (10) feet in height.

(i) All areas associated with the keeping of chickens shall be cleaned and made free of waste on a regular basis. Waste associated with the use shall be disposed of in an appropriate waste disposal container that is periodically removed from the property.

(j) Persons who keep chickens shall keep their property clean and free from all decaying feathers, feces or vegetable matter and employ a means of eliminating odor problems and propagation of insects related to the keeping of the chickens.

(k) All chicken feed or other material intended for consumption by chickens shall be kept in containers impenetrable by rodents, insects, or predators.

(l) Any more restrictive covenants dealing with the keeping of chickens shall supersede and control over the provisions of this section.

(2) *That this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.*

DRAFT

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE
CODE OF THE COUNTY OF DINWIDDIE, 1985, AS AMENDED,
BY AMENDING SECTION 22-84, PERMITTED USES, DIVISION 4 – RESIDENTIAL
CONSERVATIVE, DISTRICT R-R.
CHAPTER 22, ZONING, ARTICLE IV, DISTRICT REGULATIONS.**

BE IT RECOMMENDED by the Planning Commission of Dinwiddie County:

(1) *That Chapter 22 of the Code of the County of Dinwiddie, 1985, as amended, is amended by inserting the following language shown underlined and deleting the following language marked as strikethrough:*

Sec. 22-84. Permitted uses.

(6) Reserved. Keeping of chickens, subject to the requirements of Sec. 22-244.1.

(2) *That this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.*