# Tower Lakes Proposed Ordinance Changes: Backyard Chickens

**Administration and Enforcement**
• Requires annual registration, permits, and inspections
• Limits chickens to parcels of a minimum of 2 acres or more in zones A-3, A-4, and F
• Excludes Fenview and Timber Court due to existing Covenants that prohibit chickens
• Does not allow chickens on vacant parcels
• Requires building permits prior to construction of coops and runs
• Allows 180 days for existing nonconforming operations to comply

**Animal Welfare**
• Allows up to 12 female chickens of any age per parcel
• Requires predator aprons
• Does not allow slaughtering

**Coops and Runs**
• Allows freestanding chicken coops
• Specifies dimensions and materials for coops and runs
• Requires that all coops be enclosed
• Allows fences for chicken runs

**Aesthetics, Community Value, and Character**
• Stipulates that coops and runs adhere to required setbacks (30 feet from any property line)
• Requires that coops and runs are located a minimum of 75 feet from adjacent neighbors' homes
• Requires screening of coops and runs from adjacent neighbors' properties
• Prohibits noise and odors from impacting neighbors

**Public Health and Environmental Concerns**
• Requires that chickens are confined
• Prohibits chickens on lots or parcels that are adjacent to TL waterways
• Mandates the use of deep litter systems and other best management practices
• Requires rodent-proof storage of feed
• Prohibits the sale of eggs

**Tower Lakes Proposed Changes in Ordinances: Backyard Chickens**

**Chapter 4, "Nuisances", of Title 7, "Health and Sanitation"**
**Noise** and
**Chapter 3, "Animal Control", of Title 8, "Police Regulations"**
- Modifies the general nuisance noise provisions in Sections 7-4-1(C) and 8-3-3(A) of the TLVC for uniformity

**Chapter 3, "Animal Control", of Title 8, "Police Regulations"**
**Zoning and Existing Covenants**
- Requires an Application and Registration form be submitted on or before May 1 of each year
- Allows female chickens (gallus Gallusdomesticus) with restrictions
- Limits chickens to parcels on a minimum of 2 acres or more in zones A-3, A-4, and F; not allowed on vacant parcels
- Does not apply to Fenview and Timber Court due to existing Covenants: "No animal shall be permitted other than dogs, cats and other small household pets."

**Chapter 3, "Animal Control", of Title 8, "Police Regulations"**
**Riparian Areas**
- Does not allow the keeping and/or maintaining of chickens on lots or parcels which are adjacent to Tower Lake, North Lake, Davlin's Pond, and Cypress Pond

**Chapter 3, "Animal Control", of Title 8, "Police Regulations"**
**Aesthetics, Management Practices and Nuisance Mitigation**
- Limits to 12 birds of any age per lot
- Does not allow roosters, slaughtering, or sale of eggs
- Requires rodent-proof storage of feed

**Chapter 3, "Animal Control", of Title 8, "Police Regulations"**
**Registration and Enforcement**
- Requires residents to submit an Application and Registration form to the Village and undergo annual inspections by a Village official or inspector authorized by the Village
- Allows 180 days for initial registration period and the initial compliance period for existing non-conforming operations to be brought into compliance with all applicable zoning regulations (Section 8-3-10)
- Requires annual inspections

**Chapter 3, "Animal Control", of Title 8, "Police Regulations"**
**Registration and Enforcement**
- Requires deep litter systems
- Prohibits odors from adversely affecting neighbors

**Chapter 3, "Animal Control", of Title 8, "Police Regulations"**
**Coops and Runs**
- Prohibits chickens from running at large
- Stipulates that coops and runs adhere to ordinances for accessory buildings setbacks, and distance from adjacent residences
- Requires screening materials to block adjacent neighbors' views
- Requires building permits prior to construction of coops and runs
- Allows freestanding coops and runs

- Outlines specifications of coops and runs (dimensions and materials)
- Requires predator aprons and deep litter systems

**Chapter 1, "Administrative Provisions", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Fences**
- Adds to Section 10-1-3, "Definitions", of the Tower Lakes Zoning Regulations, in the definition of "FENCE"; an exception for a chicken run and a coop when in compliance with the TLVC.

**Chapter 4, "Districts Enumerated", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Zones**
- A-3:  5 acres
- A-4:  2 acres
- F:    20 acres
- Allows chickens, but only if in compliance with the Village Animal Control regulations (Chapter 3 of Title 8)

**Chapter 6, "General Requirements", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Deep Litter Systems**
- Requires deep litter maintenance systems for coops

**Chapter 6, "General Requirements", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Accessory Buildings**
- Mandates that garages or other accessory buildings, except playhouses, play equipment, and chicken coops in conformity with Section 10-6-11 of the chapter, in any residential A district must be attached to the residence in a manner so as to be part of the dwelling unit, except as otherwise provided in Sections 8-3-10). Freestanding chicken coops and runs are allowed.

**Chapter 6, "General Requirements", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Fences**
- Includes specifications and required materials for fences
- Requires predator aprons

**Chapter 6, "General Requirements", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Setbacks**
- Requires that the respective locations of any coop or run shall be compliant with all front, rear and side setbacks as required by Title 10, "Zoning Regulations" of the Village Code and, in any event, shall be set back a minimum of thirty (30) feet from any property line and seventy-five (75) feet from adjacent neighbor's houses

**Chapter 6, "General Requirements", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Screening**
- Requires that screening materials be installed/constructed so as to block adjacent neighbors' views of coops and runs

**Chapter 6, "General Requirements", of Title 10, "Zoning Regulations"**
**Inspections**
- Requires that all coops and runs be subject to annual inspections by a Village official or inspector authorized by the Village