



Hens (female chickens) shall not be kept in such a manner as to constitute a nuisance to the occupants of adjacent property. (Roosters and Peacocks are prohibited in the city limits.)

Although keeping backyard poultry can be fun and educational, owners should be aware they can carry harmful germs that make people sick. Take precautions when handling poultry litter to avoid potential health risks.

When disposing of chicken waste, be mindful in preventing the discharge of pollutants into stormwater runoff, which enters the storm sewer system.

Also, proper disposal and/or composting will minimize fly breeding and wind induced pollutants from stored manure.

Dispose of chicken manure/waste frequently and in a proper manner –

- Manure and coop waste shall not be allowed to accumulate in such a way that causes an unsanitary condition or disease and odors detectible on another property.
- The coop and its surrounding area must be cleaned frequently to control disease and odor.
- All manure, uneaten feed, and other trash shall be removed, discarded properly disposed of and/or properly composted in a timely manner.
- Proper composting of poultry waste can be done by many methods. It will require some research to find which method works best for your environment.
- *For an on-line publication on composting of poultry litter, visit the UT Agriculture Extension Service website at: <https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/Info%20319.pdf>*
- Manure and coop waste that is not properly composted must be secured and double bagged in solid waste bags and kept in a solid waste container.

Sanitary conditions of the henhouse -

- The enclosure and surrounding area must be covered, fenced, clean, dry, odor-free, and in a neat and sanitary condition at all times.
- The chicken coop should provide hens with an adequate, safe, well ventilated, sturdy shelter from extreme temperatures with housing areas and feeders/waterers that can be easily cleaned and disinfected.
- Chickens should have access to feed and clean water at all times.
- Feed and water shall be inaccessible to rodents, wild birds, and predators, including dogs and cats.
- For questions regarding compliance of the ordinance, please contact Animal Control at 423-559-3333.



City of Cleveland
190 Church Street N.E.
Cleveland, TN. 37311
www.clevelandtn.gov
423-472-4551