
ORDINANCE NO. 47-13 & 15, SERIES 2022

AMENDING CHAPTER 47, ANIMALS

The Village Board of the Village of Merrimac, Sauk County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

Section I: Repeal and recreate Sections 47-13 and 47-15, ANIMALS, of the Code of the Village of Merrimac as follows:

- (1) Female chickens may be kept on properties in R-1, R-2, and R-3 Residential Districts provided the following conditions are met:
 - a. Keeping of chickens requires an annual license issued by the Village. The Village Administrator shall review applications for chicken licenses. Not less than ten (10) days notice of an application shall be provided to all property owners adjoining with the parcel proposed for a chicken coop. No application shall be approved if fifty percent (50%) or more of the adjoining property owners of the applicant’s property object to the granting of the license. The license shall expire on December 31 of each year and the annual fee shall be set forth by the Village Board in the Schedule of Fees. Any license not renewed by March 1 shall be assessed a late penalty as set forth by the Village Board in the Schedule of Fees. The chickens shall be kept on the property of the owner, or if a tenant, with the written consent of the owner. Such written consent must be submitted with the application for a license. A current photo or drawing of the proposed coop and run must be submitted with each license application (to ensure the coop and run meet minimum appearance and size standards for the approved number of hens to be kept).
 - b. Zero-lot-line multi-unit homes are not allowed to have chickens.
 - c. No more than six (6) hens may be kept on any parcel; No roosters may be kept.
 - d. All feed shall be kept in a secure, rodent-proof container.
 - e. Chickens shall not be kept inside of a residence.
 - f. Outdoor slaughtering of chickens is prohibited on properties with residential uses.
 - g. No person may sell chicken products, including eggs, meat, feathers, or chicks accumulated from the activities permitted hereunder.
 - h. Use of mechanized farm equipment is prohibited.
 - i. Chickens shall be kept in an enclosed and covered coop or run at all times. A coop is defined as an enclosed accessory structure designed for the keeping of chickens and meeting the requirements of this section. A run is defined as a covered, fenced cage attached to a coop. The coop and run shall be made of sturdy, predator-proof material and shall

provide adequate shade from the sun and warmth in cold weather. The floor of the enclosure shall be covered with wood chips, straw or other bedding and be regularly cleaned and maintained. The coop shall provide at least three (3) square feet of space per hen; the enclosed run shall provide at least six (6) square feet of space per hen. No coop or run shall be closer than ten (10) feet to any lot line nor be closer than twenty-five (25) feet to any residential structures. The chickens, coop and run must be kept in the rear yard behind the principal structure. Coops and runs shall be kept in a clean, dry, and odor-free condition at all times so as to not disturb the use or enjoyment of adjoining neighbors due to noise, odor or other adverse impact.

- j. In the event a license holder accumulates two violations of this Chapter within any 12-month period, or three violations within any 36-month period, the license shall be revoked. A person whose license is revoked must wait one full calendar year to reapply for a license following the date of revocation. A Notice of Revocation is deemed served upon the day of mailing if sent by certified mail to the chicken license holder.

Section 2: This ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption and publication in the manner provided for by law.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2022.
Published this ____ day of _____, 2022.

Village of Merrimac, WI

Philip E. Budde
Village President

Jennie Klecker
Village Administrator/Clerk