

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
5151 Marsh Road Okemos, MI 48864
PLANNING DIVISION PHONE: (517) 853-4560, FAX: (517) 853-4095
WEBSITE: www.meridian.mi.us

CHICKENS AND RABBITS REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits accessory only to one family dwellings in the RRA, RAAA, RAA, and RA zoning districts subject to the following requirements:

a. *Registration.*

1. Prior to the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits on any property under this section, the property shall be registered with the Department of Community Planning and Development.
2. Only an individual living in a dwelling on the property shall raise or keep chickens and rabbits on the property. A registration may not be transferred.
3. Notwithstanding registering with the Township, private restrictions on the use of property shall remain enforceable and take precedence over the registration. Private restrictions include but are not limited to deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions, neighborhood association by-laws, and covenant deeds. The interpretation and enforcement of the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.

b. *Standards.* In addition to registering with the Township, the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits accessory only to one family dwellings in the RRA, RAAA, RAA, and RA zoning districts shall comply with the following standards:

1. In no case shall the maximum number of chickens and rabbits in any combination exceed four (4).
2. Roosters shall not be allowed.
3. The sale of chickens, rabbits and eggs on the property is prohibited.
4. Chickens and rabbits shall not be kept in any location on the property other than in the rear yard as defined by the zoning ordinance.
5. Chickens and rabbits shall be provided with a covered structure and must be kept in the covered structure or an adjoining fenced area at all times. Covered structures and fenced areas used for the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits are subject to all provisions of Chapter 86 (Zoning) except the covered structure and fenced area shall be set back a minimum of 10 feet from a side or rear lot line and structures proposed for reverse frontage lots shall be located no closer than 30 feet to the right-of-way of the designated rear yard.
6. All structures for the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits shall be constructed so as to prevent rodents or other animals from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of the structure.
7. All feed and other items associated with the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits shall be kept in containers or otherwise protected so as to prevent access to or contact with rodents or other animals.
8. The covered structure used to house the chickens and rabbits and any fenced area shall be kept in a sanitary condition.
9. This section shall not regulate the keeping of chickens in those areas zoned RR (Rural Residential), RRR (Single Family, Low Density, Rural Residential), or Ag (Agricultural) where the raising of chickens is a permitted use when conducted in compliance with the Michigan Right to Farm Act and the Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices promulgated therein.

I certify I have read and understand the regulations regarding the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits as listed on the registration form and that I live in the dwelling on the property indicated on the registration form where the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits will take place. I agree to comply with all requirements for the raising and keeping of chickens and rabbits as specified in Section 86-368(b)(8) of the Code of Ordinances of the Charter Township of Meridian.

Signature

Date