



Bill No. 24-09

Concerning: Backyard Chicken Regulations

Introduced May 21, 2024

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_ Draft No. \_\_\_\_\_

Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires: August 19, 2024

Frederick County Code, Chapter 1-19

Section(s) 8

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council Member Mason Carter

**AN ACT** to: Amend the Accessory Uses on Residential Properties by providing guidance on the keeping of 8 or fewer chickens.

Date Council Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Transmitted to Executive: \_\_\_\_\_

Executive: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Vetoed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date returned to Council by County Executive with no action: \_\_\_\_\_

By amending:

Frederick County Code, 1-19 Section(s) 8

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Boldface**

Underlining

[Single boldface brackets]

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*Heading or defined term.*

*Added to existing law.*

*Deleted from existing law.*

*Existing law unaffected by bill.*

1 Bill No. 24-09

2 The County Council of Frederick County, Maryland, finds it necessary and appropriate to  
3 amend the Frederick County Code § 1-19-8.240. ACCESSORY USES ON RESIDENTIAL  
4 PROPERTIES to include guidance for keeping 8 or fewer chickens on a residential property.

5  
6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF  
7 FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Frederick County Code be, and it is hereby,  
8 amended as shown on the attached Exhibit 1.

9  
10  
11  
12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Brad W. Young, President  
14 County Council of Frederick County,  
15 Maryland

**§ 1-19-8.240. ACCESSORY USES ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES.**

(A) Customary accessory uses permitted on residential properties include the following.

(1) Accommodations for bona fide servants or guests, including unattached guest houses.

(2) (a) Keeping of not more than 9 domestic animals; however, a commercial stable or kennel is not an accessory use. Farm parcels are exempt from this limitation.

(b) Keeping of farm animals in residential districts on a lot containing 3 acres or more provided no pens, stalls or runs will be located closer than 50 feet of any lot line, unless approved as a limited agricultural activity as provided in § 1-19-5.310 and § 1-19-8.325.

(c) Keeping of 8 chickens or fewer, provided the following conditions are met:

1. Lots must be at least 30,000 sq. feet;
2. Roosters are prohibited;
3. No pen, stall, run, coop or structure may be placed closer than 25 feet away from any lot line; and
4. Chickens must be confined to the backyard of the premises at all times.

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Underlining indicates matter added to existing law.

[Single boldface brackets] indicates matter deleted from existing law.

\*\*\* - indicates existing law unaffected by bill.

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