



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]
* * *

Heading or defined term.
Added to existing law.
Deleted from existing law.
Existing law unaffected by bill.

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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.

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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.

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Brad W. Young, President
County Council of Frederick County,
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.

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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