

**City of Green Isle
County of Sibley
State of Minnesota**

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-04

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2. FARM ANIMALS AND HORSES;
SECTION 12 PENALTY; SECTION 14 IMPOUNDMENT OF ORDINANCE NO. 2007-03
ADOPTED ON APRIL 8th, 2025.**

2. Farm Animals and Horses. Farm animals, defined as animals usually held for agricultural or commercial production, including, but not limited to, cattle, hogs (including miniature "pot-bellied" pigs), sheep, goats, mink, ermine, turkeys, and also horses, shall only be allowed to be kept or housed in portions of the city zoned as agricultural zones, subject to any further restrictions contained in other City ordinances.

A. Backyard Chickens. Notwithstanding other provisions of this ordinance, a person may keep up to eight (8) hens (female chickens) per residential property, provided that the owner has a lot with a minimum of 10,000 square feet and obtains a backyard chicken permit from the City. No permit shall be issued except in compliance with this section.

- 1) Definitions
 - a. "Coop" means the structure for the keeping or housing of chickens permitted by the ordinance.
 - b. "Hen" means a female chicken.
 - c. "Rooster" means a male chicken
 - d. "Run" means a fully enclosed and covered area attached to a coop where the chickens can roam unsupervised.
- 2) Any person desiring to obtain a backyard chicken permit under this subdivision must make a written application to the City Clerk on a form provided by the city and pay an application fee. Fees to be charged for the permit to keep chickens shall be set by City Council on the fee schedule. The application must include a scaled diagram or site plan that shows the location of the chicken coop including the distance of the coop from adjoining structures and property lines and the coop's dimensions. If the applicant's lot is less than 10,000 square feet, the applicant must secure written permission from the owners of property within 150 feet of the applicant's parcel.
- 3) The City may revoke a permit for failure to comply with provisions of this section or any of the permit's conditions.
- 4) The City may inspect the premises for which a permit has been granted in order to ensure compliance with this subdivision. If the city is not able to obtain the occupant's consent to enter the property, it may seek an administrative search warrant or revoke the permit.

- 5) All chickens must be kept in an enclosed coop or enclosed run. The chicken's living area must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, devoid of all rodents and vermin and free from objectionable odors. Waste must be disposed of on a weekly basis. Grains and feed must be stored in rodent and raccoon-proof containers inside of a structure. The enclosed coop must be built to protect the chickens from extreme heat or cold. The enclosed coop must be maintained in good condition and be sufficient in strength and size to allow the chickens to move about, but also able to prevent escape. The enclosed coop must be located in the rear yard and set back at least 25-feet from any residential dwelling and at least 15-feet from all property lines and may not be located in a utility or drainage easement. The applicant may request to place the enclosed coop less than 15-feet from the property line only with written permission from the owners of the adjacent property.
- 6) Enclosed runs shall be attached to the coop. Fencing shall be adequate to keep chickens in and predators out. The coop and attached run shall be set back at least 25-feet from all neighboring residential structures and 15-feet from the property line. The applicant may request to place the enclosed coop and run less than 15-feet from the property line only with written permission from the owners of the adjacent property
- 7) Chickens must not be raised or kept for the purpose of fighting. No permit will be granted by the city to keep any chickens within a dwelling or garage, nor on a property which contains two or more dwelling units.
- 8) No outdoor butchering of chickens is allowed.
- 9) No roosters are allowed.
- 10) No person shall allow any chicken under his or her ownership or control to violate 2007-05 Public Nuisance.
- 11) Persons that intend to no longer keep chickens on their premises shall notify the City. The coop must be removed upon expiration of the permit.
- 12) Dead chickens must be disposed of according to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health rules which require chicken carcasses to be disposed of as soon as possible after death, usually within forty-eight (48) to seventy-two (72) hours. Legal forms of chicken carcass disposal include offsite burial, offsite incineration or rendering, or offsite composting.

12. Penalty. Whoever violates the provisions of this ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor. The penalty shall be a sentence of not more than ninety (90) days or a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both.

14. Impoundment. Any animal in violation of this subchapter may be impounded, and an accurate record of the time of placement shall be kept on each animal.

A. Any Animal Control Officer or police officer may impound any dog or other animal found unlicensed or any animal found running at large and shall give notice of the impounding to the owner of the dog or other animal, if known. All animals conveyed to the pound shall be kept, with humane treatment and sufficient food and water for their comfort, at least five (5) regular business days. In case the owner or keeper shall desire to reclaim the animal, the following shall be required, unless otherwise provided for in this code or established from time to time by resolution of the City Council:

- a. Payment of the release fee and receipt of a release permit as established by City Council from time to time.
- b. Payment of maintenance costs, per day or any part of day while animal is impounded; and
- c. If an animal is unlicensed, payment of a regular license fee as established by the City Council from time to time, and valid certificate of vaccination for rabies and distemper shots is required.

B. For the purpose of this section, the following definition shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

REGULAR BUSINESS DAY. One during which the pound is open for business to the public for at least four hours between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

- C. Impoundment records shall be preserved for at least six (6) months and shall show:
- a. The description of the animal by species, breed, sex, approximate age and other distinguishing traits;
 - b. The location at which the animal was seized;
 - c. The date of seizure;
 - d. The name and address of the person from whom any animal three months of age or over was received; and
 - e. The name and address of the person to whom any animal three months of age or over was transferred.

D. If the animal has not been reclaimed in accordance with the provisions of this section it may be disposed of as the police deem appropriate, which may include sale, adoption or destruction of the animal in a proper and humane manner.

E. Notice of impounding. Upon the impounding of any animal, the owner shall be notified by the most expedient means.

- F. Release of animal. Animals shall be released to their owners, as follows:
- a. If the animal is owned by a resident of the city, after purchase of a license, if unlicensed, and payment of the impounding fee, maintenance and immunization fee; or

b. If the animal is owned by a person not a resident of the city, after immunization of the animal for rabies, and payment of the impounding fee and maintenance.

Passed by the City Council of Green Isle, Minnesota this 8th day of April, 2025.

Mayor

Attested:

City Clerk