

INFO-23-60

From: noreply@oshawa.ca On Behalf Of Rebecca Osborne
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 3:15 PM
To: clerks <clerks@oshawa.ca>
Subject: Chickens

Hi Mayor Dan!

I understand that owning chickens in the city is currently disallowed within the city of oshawa.

I also understand the risks of bird flu and the occasional outbreaks found in larger populations of chickens and farm stock.

However, with the changes going on with food prices, I think a secondary Avenue for chicken ownership should be reevaluated.

I believe if a proper yard is available and a person is educated on keeping chickens they could greatly improve oshawa and Durham region Chickens are a free source of protein as well as a wonderful way to remove food waste. Chickens can eat so many things.

The poop collected from chickens is high in minerals and nitrogen for gardens and can be added to current green bin composting! Reducing overall volume of waste and improving the quality of the waste collected (I assume it all goes to be turned into dirt somewhere)

Small backyard populations of chickens are not likely to spread or catch bird flu compared to large scale operations.

Additionally chickens require little space and female chickens (not roosters) are indeed very quiet and do not pose a noise problem.

each chicken can lay 3 eggs a day for a household to own 3 chickens that would provide much needed free protein for kids going to school, mothers on allowance, people on odsp or Ontarioworks..

Each batch of chickens needs 100 feet to start plus 50 feet for each additional bird.

Chickens are usually less than 25 dollars per bird to start and lay for a few years! And even after peak laying still pop out 1 egg a week and make amazing pets and also again, (almost) free food for people

I propose an application process for backyard chickens.

Where if the yard is acceptable, and a small written test on chicken keeping is passed. People can have an acceptable amount of chickens. Usually 3 per household.

Chickens can be tested for flu and an agreement to dispose of birds during outbreaks of contamination agreed upon.

Please allow chickens