Keeping Chickens in Chelmsford

1. Before Proceeding: Please contact the Chelmsford Board of Health Office at 978-250-5241 to make sure your property meets the requirements necessary to keep chickens.
2. The Health Department will assess residents’ property before resident fills out application.
3. At least 40,000 square feet is required for approximately 10 chickens. No more than 19 chickens are permitted and requires more square footage at the property. Check with the Board of Health Department.
4. If property is less than 40,000 square feet, it may be possible to keep less than 10 chickens, with approval from the Board of Health.
5. The chicken coop must be 50 feet from all abutting properties.
6. The initial permit fee is $30.00 and $15.00 each year thereafter for under 10 chickens or $30.00 per year for up to 19 chickens.
7. If approved, resident will draw a diagram on the back of the permit application showing the location of the chicken coop.
8. An inspection of the residents’ property will be done to approve placement of the coop.
9. Please contact the Board of Health for further information 978-250-5241

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O/Health/Permit Application Forms/2018 Form