

Attachment 6

A Case for Backyard Chickens in Salem (Oregon's Capital City)



By Chickens In The Yard (C.I.T.Y.)

September 2010

The Oregon Pioneer sits atop our capital building and is said to represent the spirit of our early settlers . . . Well, they had chickens and we want them too!

UPDATE! On September 27, 2010 Salem City Council voted 7 to 2 to allow us to keep three hens in our backyards. The ordinance goes into effect January 1, 2011.

Attachment 6

Table of Contents

(Put cursor on title and press *Enter* to jump to that section in the document)

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	4
Salem Revised Code	5
Definition of Livestock	5
Community Support	6
Code Enforcement	7
Odor & Noise	8
Impact on Animal Shelters	9
Property Values	9-10
Public Health	10-11
Pests & Rodents	11
Sustainability	12
Food Safety & Animal Welfare	12-13
Economic Benefits	13
Emergency Preparedness	14
Educational Opportunities	14-15
Water & Air Quality	15
Community-Building Events	16
Conclusion	17

Attachment 6

Appendices

	<u>Page</u>
A: World Watch Institute : U.S. City Dwellers Flock to Raising Chickens	18-20
B: Newsweek Magazine : The New Coop de Ville	21-23
C: Salem Revised Code Section 146.020 (Permitted Uses in the Single Family Residential Zones)	24
D: Salem Revised Code Section 111.130(e) (City's Definition of Livestock)	25
E: Salem Revised Code Section 146.030 (Special Uses / Miniature Swine)	26-27
F: Oregon Dept. of Agriculture's Definition of Livestock	28
G: Letters of Support	29-39
H: Letter from OSU Extension Poultry Specialist	40-41
I: Rooster Relocation Program	42-45
J: Letters from Real Estate Professionals	46-47
K: Statement from Public Health Veterinarian	48-49
L: Letters from Marion-Polk Food Share	50-51
M: Correspondence Regarding Methane Gas Emissions	55

Attachment 6

Introduction

As people grow more concerned about the economy, the environment, food safety, emergency preparedness, and animal welfare, they are returning to the basic skills their grandparents understood well – vegetable gardening, canning food, and raising chickens. In response to citizens’ requests, many municipalities across the country have adopted ordinances allowing residents to keep a limited number of egg-laying hens as pets.

According to the Worldwatch Institute, there is an Urban Chicken Movement underway that has “... swept across the United States in recent years” and it began right here in the Pacific Northwest ([Appendix A](#)).

Our request is not unreasonable or unusual. Cities across the country, large and small, allow a limited number of backyard hens. For example, chickens are allowed in Seattle, Chicago, Denver, Madison, Fort Collins, Vancouver, and New York. In fact, according to Newsweek Magazine, more than 65% of major U.S. cities now have chicken-keeping ordinances ([Appendix B](#)).

In Oregon, nearly every city has relaxed its zoning regulations to allow residents to enjoy a few backyard chickens (see chart below). We, the people of Salem would like the same opportunity enjoyed by our friends in neighboring communities.

Chicken-Keeping Policies in Oregon
(Revised August 19, 2010)

Oregon Cities	# Hens Allowed	Setback from Property Line	Distance from Adjacent Dwellings	Minimum Lot Size	Comments
Astoria	Unlimited				
Beaverton	4		20'		Ordinance passed unanimously on 8/16/10, takes effect Sept. 20, 2010.
Bend	4	15'	25'	6,000 sq ft	Requires a \$100 Farm Animal Permit.
Cannon Beach	4	15'	15'		
Corvallis	Unlimited				Even roosters are permitted.
Dallas	5	10'			Adopted ordinance in January 2010.
Eugene	2	10'	25'		Citizens currently working to increase number of hens allowed.
Forest Grove	4		20'	5,000 sq ft	
Gresham	3	10'	25'		Adopted ordinance in December 2009 - Requires \$50 permit which is good for two years.
Klamath Falls					
Lake Oswego	Unlimited				
Lincoln City	Unlimited				
Portland*	3				
Springfield	4				

* Multnomah County enforces the chicken ordinance for the city of Portland. If you have less than 4 chickens, the only requirement is that you keep no roosters and do not let hens roam freely. If you want 4 or more hens, you have to apply for a \$31 “special animal facility” permit and abide by further restrictions including property line setbacks, etc. People with 3 or less chickens who do not care for them properly and receive valid complaints can be made to get the permit and follow a more stringent set of rules.

Attachment 6

Salem Revised Code

Currently, Section 146.020 of the Salem Revised Codes lists land uses permitted in Single Family Residential zones ([Appendix C](#)). Any use *not* on this list is considered unlawful, based on its omission. Chickens are not listed. This, and the fact that chickens are defined as livestock in Section 111.130, Section (e), of the Salem Revised Code, makes keeping chickens inside the city illegal ([Appendix D](#)). Yet, according Section 146.030, Special Uses, city residents can keep a potbelly pig weighing up to 100 pounds ([Appendix E](#)). We think it's unreasonable that you can keep a 100-pound pig, or a vicious dog, roaming cat, and assorted other animals, but not a 3-pound bird that provides nutritious eggs year-round.

Definition of Livestock



Chickens are a dual purpose animal. They can be raised for profit, or treated like pets. Because hens are small, harmless, friendly, entertaining, and easy to care for – they make wonderful pets. Three small hens aren't "livestock" any more than a vegetable garden is a farm.

According to section 111.130(e) in the revised code, the city's definition of livestock includes poultry ([Appendix D](#)). City Staff has recommended this definition be changed to exclude the keeping of backyard hens for non-commercial purposes. We agree for the following reasons:

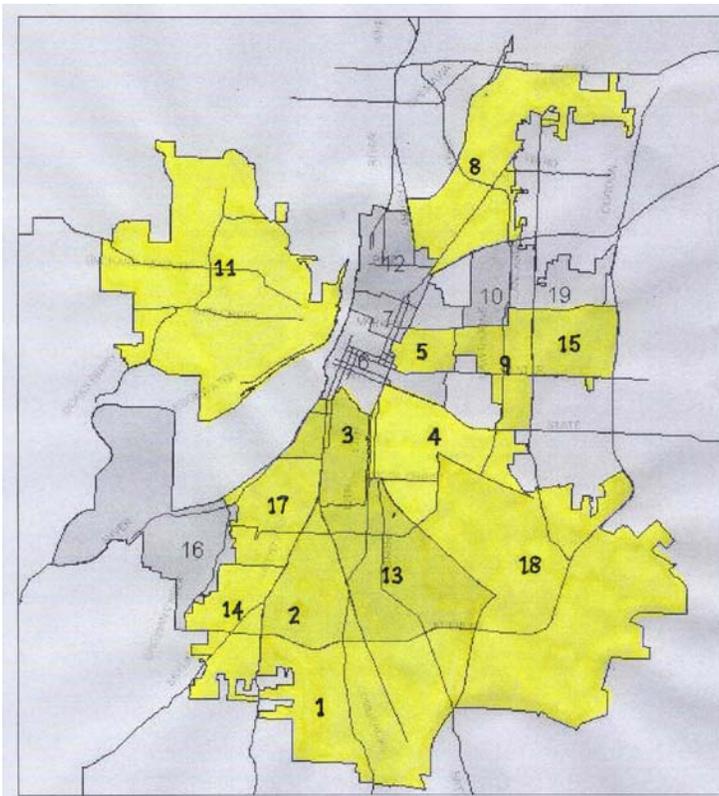
1. The State Department of Agriculture excludes chickens from its definition of livestock and we believe the City's definition should match the state's definition ([Appendix F](#)).
2. According to Oregon Revised Statute 609.140(1), any dog that harms livestock can be euthanized. It's unlikely that dogs will harm chickens because we have stipulated that the birds be enclosed within a backyard facility at all times. But in the event this should occur, we urge council to modify the definition of livestock so that dogs would be protected.
3. If chickens remain as livestock, then enforcement of a chicken ordinance would fall under the land use section of the Salem Revised Code. Therefore, any modification to the ordinance would require review by the Planning Commission and a state-mandated 45-day waiting period. It would be much easier and more efficient to remove chickens from the city's definition of livestock and allow them as pets, which could then be enforced under the nuisance section of the city's code and easily modified.

Attachment 6

Community Support

The city of Salem overwhelmingly supports the chicken ordinance, evidenced by the following:

1. A petition with 1,232 signatures from Salem residents over the age of 18 who support our proposal.
2. Endorsement by the following local organizations:
Marion-Polk Food Share
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Center for Sustainable Communities at Willamette University
Oregon Tilth
Friends of Marion County
3. An inspection of the public record revealed the vast majority of correspondence received by the City on this issue was in favor of the ordinance. At 16 public meetings where chickens were discussed between February 2009 and August 2010, the number of persons in favor of the ordinance consistently far outweighed those opposed.
4. Endorsement by 13 of Salem's 19 neighborhood associations, including all of the *largest* ones. According to The Department of Community Services, these represent over 85% of Salem households.



<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>Councilor Ward(s)</u>
So. Gateway	4
ELNA	6
Faye Wright	3, 4
Morningside	2, 3
Northgate	5
SCAN	2, 7
SEMCA	2, 3, 4
SESNA	2
So. Salem	7
Sunnyslope	7
NESCA	6
West Salem	8
NEN	1, 2, 6

Never before has a proposed ordinance required the endorsement of every neighborhood association. Still, CITY went to great lengths to educate the public and recruit support. The fact that 13 out of 19 neighborhoods voted for the ordinance is more than adequate to prove sufficient public support exists for our proposal.

The 13 neighborhoods that support a chicken ordinance are highlighted in yellow.

Attachment 6

Odor

The fear of odor problems caused by backyard chickens is unwarranted. Chickens themselves do not smell. It's only their feces that have the potential to stink, which is also true of feces from dogs, cats, or any other animal that leaves waste in the yard. But unlike dogs and cats, who leave waste on the lawns of their neighbors or in public places, chicken waste would be confined to the coop in the backyard of the owner because we have stipulated that the hens be enclosed at all times.

It's also important to realize that the maximum number of chickens allowed is just three. Three small hens weigh less than 15 pounds collectively, and generate less waste than one average dog. For those of you who are not aware, potbelly pigs weighing 100 pounds are currently allowed in the city. This animal produces 30 times more waste than a chicken and you don't get the benefit of eggs.

Furthermore, chicken manure is a highly valued fertilizer that can be used in the garden, whereas waste from dogs and cats cannot because of the parasites and human diseases it can harbor.

According to Dr. Hermes, Oregon State University Extension Poultry Specialist, "*Once added to the compost or tilled into the soil, the odor-causing compounds are no longer able to cause objectionable odors.*" This statement is an exact quote taken from his letter ([Appendix H](#)).

The reason people fear an odor problem is because their only experience with chickens (if they have any at all), is a farm or commercial poultry operation. In these situations, chickens are viewed as a commodity and are raised with the intention of profit from meat or egg production. Under *those* circumstances, hundreds, if not thousands, of chickens are often kept in crowded conditions with poor ventilation or regular cleaning. As a result, ammonia can build up and these facilities can stink.

On the contrary, people who want to raise 3 hens as pets in the city are not looking to make a profit. They want eggs laid by healthy, happy chickens that they treat like pets. Three small birds housed at least 20' from adjacent dwellings and in close proximity to the owner's home, are extremely unlikely to create an odor problem for neighbors.

Noise

Only roosters crow loudly, not hens. Hens never crow and are generally quiet animals, with the exception of announcing the arrival of a freshly hatched egg. This sound is short-lived, lasting a few minutes and takes place once every 24 to 36 hours, and *never* occurs at night. Some hens are more vocal than others, depending on the breed, but there is no comparing the sound of a cackling hen to dogs that can bark all night long, power tools, lawn mowers, garbage trucks, motorcycles, wild crows, kids playing, car alarms, sirens, airplanes, trains, and the myriad of other loud noises frequently heard in the neighborhood.

Attachment 6

Impact on Animal Shelters

We have taken steps to ensure that local animal shelters are not inundated with unwanted hens and mis-sexed roosters, as some have claimed.

Hens are always wanted because they provide eggs, fertilizer, and are gentle creatures that make great pets. If a family can't keep them for any reason, they are easily relocated using Craig's List, postings at local farm stores, or through CITY's website.

There are steps that can be taken to avoid improperly sexed roosters and we will encourage people to exercise those precautions. For the small percentage of those that do turn out to be roosters, we have a rooster relocation program in place and ready to go. A local farmer who re-homes roosters for the residents of Portland has agreed to do the same for us. Oregon is a very agricultural state and there is no shortage of farmers who are happy to take in breeding roosters.

Please refer to the three letters in [Appendix I](#) for more details about this program.

Property Values

Declining property values is another myth associated with chicken-keeping in the city.

Again, this is an unsubstantiated claim based on fear, not facts. A small backyard flock made up of three small hens treated like pets are about as different from a commercial operation or farm as you can get. City coops are typically small, clean, and attractive because people love their pets and live in close proximity to them. In fact, urban hen-keepers are so proud of their coops, they hold annual coop tours to show them off!

There is absolutely no evidence to indicate that keeping pet hens, as laid out in our proposal, would have any negative impact on real estate values whatsoever.

In the following charts you can see that as of March 2009, the average sales price of homes in eight chicken-friendly cities is *higher* than homes in Salem. You can clearly see that the average sales price of homes in cities with demographics similar to ours, but that allow chickens, all have higher average sales prices than here where chickens are not allowed.

In [Appendix J](#) you will find a letter from Jane Leo, Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors, stating that in her 14 years with that organization, she has never heard of an instance where chickens were associated with lower property values. There, you will also find a letter from a local realtor.

Attachment 6

It's simply *not* true that urban chicken keeping has a negative impact on property values. The statistics prove it.



City	Average Sales Price
Seattle, WA	\$437,247
Lake Oswego, OR	\$384,709
Portland, OR	\$319,911
Eugene, OR	\$287,507
Olympia, WA	\$284,401
Corvallis, OR	\$281,000
Ft. Collins, CO	\$225,924
Madison, WI	\$219,620
Salem, OR	\$193,005

Homes in cities (demographically similar to Salem, Oregon) that allow backyard chickens have an average sales price that is higher compared to homes here, where chickens are currently not allowed. Clearly, backyard chickens do *not* lower property values. (Source: <http://realestate.aol.com>)

Public Health

The notion that three birds confined to an enclosure in a backyard will somehow create a public health threat is also unwarranted. If it were true, others cities wouldn't permit it.

From time to time we hear about a potentially deadly pathogen capable of jumping from one species to another. Bird flu and swine flu are the most recent examples. Fortunately, neither of these perceived threats have materialized.

The type of Avian Influenza that is contagious to humans has not been found in North America. Bird flu is spread by contact with the contaminated feces of wild birds, primarily migratory waterfowl. Unlike rural farm birds, which might co-mingle with migratory birds or drink from a shared pond, "backyard chickens" will be kept in an enclosed pen where contact with migratory birds is unlikely.

OSU Poultry Extension Specialist, Dr. Jim Hermes, states "*Bird flu of the type noted in the media has not been diagnosed in the whole of the Western Hemisphere and may not ever find its way here*" and "*chickens are relatively healthy animals.*" Please refer to his letter in [Appendix H](#).

Attachment 6

Dogs and cats can spread parasites, bacteria, fungi and viruses to humans. Rabies is an example of a viral infection that can be transmitted to people from the saliva or bite of a dog. Cat Scratch Fever is a bacterial infection passed to people by cats. Each year, 25,000 cases are diagnosed in the U.S. Ringworm, a highly contagious fungal infection, can be transmitted to humans by touching an infected animal's fur or skin and is common in stray kittens that roam freely. Roundworm, hookworm, tapeworm, and Giardia are intestinal parasites that can be passed to humans from pet waste. There are also a number of tick-borne diseases that can be brought home from dogs and cats like Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Chickens can actually keep your yard healthier because they *eat* ticks and insects.

Keep in mind, too, that bird diseases like Exotic Newcastle, West Nile, or avian influenza can infect different types of birds, not just chickens, including common pet birds like parrots, finches, and cockatiels. There are also diseases people can catch from hamsters, reptiles, and other common pets. But regardless of this, people will continue to love and care for all kinds of pets because they enrich our lives, provide companionship, teach responsibility, entertain us, and in the case of chickens, provide eggs!

Dr. Emilio DeBess, Oregon's Public Health Veterinarian, stated "*People are not at risk of developing influenza by having a domesticated bird at home (not wild). If a client has a wild bird at home, the chances of a virus mutation and the possibility of jumping species, (given that the bird has influenza) are minimal*" ([Appendix K](#)). Also, researchers at Johns Hopkins University concluded that backyard flocks are four times less likely to contract bird flu (http://www.hsus.org/farm/news/ournews/small_flocks_lower_bird_flu_risk.html).

Pests & Rodents



Chickens do not attract insects, they eat them! They love to eat all types of bugs, including those that can carry human diseases like mosquitoes and ticks. They also eat slugs that would otherwise harm garden crops, especially here in the northwest. Rather than attract flies, they eat fly larvae (maggots) before they can grow up to become adult flies. In his letter, Dr. James Hermes, OSU Poultry Extension Specialist, supports our claim that if chickens have access to fly larvae, flies will never become a problem. He also states that chickens do not attract rodents and that a small number of hens can be a great addition to any urban family backyard ([Appendix H](#)).

A chicken pen is not likely to attract rodents or wildlife unless chicken feed is spilled or not stored properly. This same thing holds true for dog or cat food, garbage, and composters.

To many of us, chickens are a natural extension to our gardens. They are world-class recyclers. Within 24 hours, they turn garden scraps, bugs, and weeds into one of two things we can use, eggs and fertilizer.

Attachment 6

Sustainability

More and more people are interested in living a more sustainable lifestyle and reducing their carbon footprint. Local governments encourage citizens to reduce their consumption of resources, use fewer pesticides, and be more self-reliant. A small number of egg-laying hens allow us the opportunity to do just that. Political obstacles should not impede the very same lifestyle local government promotes.

People who have backyard hens are less likely to use harmful chemicals and pesticides in their gardens. Instead, they desire their yard to be healthy and environmentally friendly. They consider chickens an extension of their gardens because they eat weeds and bugs and provide fertilizer.

Organic gardeners seek natural fertilizer to enhance their garden soil as they grow fresh fruits and vegetables. Chicken manure is one of the most efficient natural fertilizers providing essential nutrients to build the soil. Backyard hens provide a very local source of fertilizer that is easily composted, without any transportation costs. According to Dr. Jim Hermes, OSU Extension Specialist, "*Chicken manure is a great addition to sustainable urban gardens*" ([Appendix H](#)).



Backyard chickens eat grass clippings and food scraps, thus keeping these products out of the local landfill by reusing them on site.

We are encouraged to eat locally, reducing the need to transport food long distances. What better place to start than the availability of food right in the back yard!

Becoming a more sustainable community becomes easier with the availability of eggs from backyard hens. Local citizens can contribute their surplus eggs to local food banks, or neighbors, feeding the hungry with healthy, locally produced food. In fact, the Marion-Polk Food Share is among our strongest supporters (Appendix L).

Food Safety & Animal Welfare

There is a growing desire among consumers to regain some control over the food we serve our families. Food recalls have become common and people are concerned about the safety of their food and the welfare of the animals that provided it.

Not only are home-grown eggs fresher, tastier, and more nutritious than store-bought eggs, they are also less likely to contain *Salmonella*. Store-bought eggs are often shipped from out-of-state, and can be legally sold when they are as old as 45 days. Studies show home-grown eggs are also more nutritious (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/Real-Food/2007-10-01/Tests-Reveal-Healthier-Eggs.aspx>).



Attachment 6



Chickens raised for profit in battery cages.



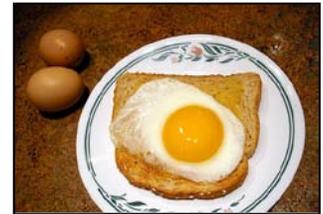
Chickens raised as backyard pets

Chickens that are raised as pets, rather than for profit, are less crowded, less stressed, treated better, and therefore less susceptible to disease. Given the recent recall of over 380 million eggs contaminated with *Salmonella*, it's no surprise that people are interested in producing as much of their own food as possible.

Economic Benefits

Many of our older family members have shared stories about how chickens saved the family during the Great Depression. Given our current economic situation, keeping a few backyard hens has never been more practical.

Food prices continue to rise. The unemployment rate is at a record high and Oregon is among the worst. Homes are being foreclosed on at an alarming rate. As a result, the Marion-Polk Food Share reports a record high in the need for emergency food boxes ([Appendix L](#)). A readily available source of eggs saves money, energy, and time. The initial cost of a small chicken coop and pen will quickly pay for itself. Members of our group are willing to donate time, labor, and material to help families in need get started.



After the initial coop investment, three hens cost very little to maintain, especially if you supplement their diet with weeds, grass clippings, bugs, and kitchen and garden scraps. In return, three hens will provide approximately 65 dozen eggs per year for a cost of about \$2/dozen. For the equivalent in fresh, locally-produced eggs that came from happy, healthy chickens (as opposed to factory farms), you would pay \$6 per dozen at the Farmer's Market or health food store. Chickens will save you additional money on fertilizer, pesticides, and gasoline.

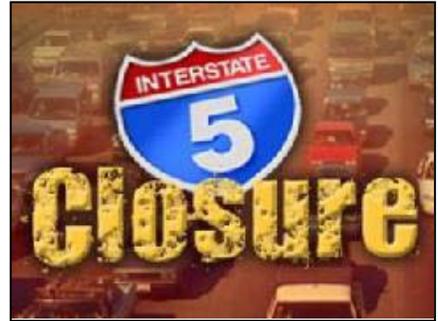
Backyard chickens also create interesting business opportunities. Oregon Business Magazine and the Register-Guard have recently reported on the highly successful businesses known as urban farm stores that cater to the needs of backyard homesteaders. In fact, these businesses are one of the few that are thriving in this economy.

Additionally, unemployed construction workers are grateful for the work they've been finding building backyard chicken coops. Urban farm schools are popping up everywhere turning a profit by teaching city dwellers how to grow gardens, can food, and raise chickens. Even the business of chicken babysitting has made CNN Money headlines lately.

Attachment 6

Emergency Preparedness

In these uncertain times, it is especially important that people be prepared for an emergency. Government officials encourage us to be prepared in the event of a fire, flood, earthquake, civil unrest, or any other situation, stating that in such an event we are likely to be on our own for the first few days or possibly weeks. When disaster strikes, it can hinder transportation or help from arriving in a timely fashion. Having a year-round source of high-protein, nutritious eggs readily available can provide critical food in a time of need.



During heavy snow/ice storms and floods like we experienced in 2008, there could be damage to buildings and infrastructure such as bridges and highways. As a result, it can be difficult to get to the store and scarcity of food items on store shelves can occur. Local egg-producing hens will help our community be more food self-sufficient when emergencies occur.

The American food system is dependent on centralized processing plants and transportation. A more diversified food system can provide more security by letting citizens grow crops and raise animals they know and enjoy. That way, if the food system should fail, we will be able to feed our selves and our neighbors (Backyard Poultry, vol. 3, no. 6, pg 16).

There is no denying that, as a nation, we would be better off if we were less reliant on outside resources. This holds true for cities, neighborhoods, and families as well.

Educational Opportunities

Raising three small hens in the backyard is a tremendous opportunity for parents to teach young children about the responsibility that comes with caring for a pet, and something about where the food they eat *really* comes from. This is something a dog or cat cannot do. And because of their small size and friendly demeanor, hens can be easily handled by young children without the fear of being bitten.

By keeping a few hens, children will also learn about sustainability and recycling because they will see first-hand how grass clippings, bugs, weeds, and kitchen scraps fed to chickens are turned into delicious eggs. They will also see how straw bedding and waste from the chickens improves garden soil that, in turn, produces fruits and vegetables. Instead of just hearing the phrase "reduce, reuse, recycle" they will actually *experience* it.



Attachment 6



City kids will have the opportunity to participate in 4-H or FFA programs like their more rural friends. A 3-pound hen is very practical because it is small, inexpensive to raise, and very easy to care for. It is much more practical for city life than a 100-pound potbelly pig, which is currently allowed in residential zones.

For many of us, our grandparents had victory gardens, knew how to can food, and raised their own chickens. But this valuable knowledge seems to have skipped a generation and we are anxious to bring it back so that our children will not be so far removed from these basic skills that they think food comes only from the grocery store.

We cherish the opportunity to teach our kids how to be more self-reliant instead of depending solely on others for their sustenance. We value the opportunity to teach our children to have less of an impact on the earth than we have.

Water & Air Quality

An average hen produces 0.0035 cu ft of manure per day whereas a 100-lb pig (the size currently allowed in the City of Salem) produces 0.109 cu ft per day. (<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/em/em8649.pdf>)

According to the FDA, an average dog generates 3/4 of a pound of manure a day that cannot be composted because of the harmful bacteria and parasites (hookworms, roundworms, and tapeworms) that can infect humans. This waste is considered a major source of bacterial pollution in urban watersheds. (<http://www.pacshell.org/projects/petwasteinfo.htm#facts>).

Dog waste contains higher concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus than cows, chickens, or pigs and is a major contributor of excessive nutrients that flow into ground and surface waters through runoff from city sidewalks and lawns. (www.csl.edu/Downloads/Sussman_2008_DogParks.pdf).

Not only do chickens produce less waste, most people who keep chickens in the city also have a garden and therefore compost their chicken manure. If composted and added to the garden, the water quality impact would be virtually nothing. Chickens also reduce the need for pesticides because they eat bugs and weeds, further reducing the potential for water pollution.

When the city of Fort Collins, Colorado adopted a chicken-keeping ordinance, they first conducted thorough research which included the possibility of increased methane gas emissions. It was concluded that backyard hens would not significantly impact methane gas emissions ([Appendix M](#)). There is no reason to believe that this would be any different in Salem.

Attachment 6

Community-Building Events

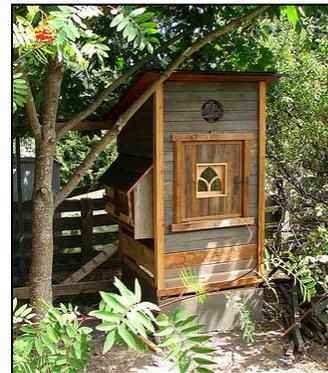
Unlike commercial poultry operations or rural farms, people in the city who keep chickens as pets keep them in attractive enclosures they are proud of. In fact, in many chicken-friendly cities residents hold annual coop tours to show them off. In Portland, Seattle, Austin, Las Vegas, and Madison, chicken enthusiasts participate in a variety of chicken-related events, including tours, classes, and clubs, adding fabric and educational opportunities to their communities.



We are eager to do the same in Salem. Members of CITY plan to host coop tours, chicken-raising classes, and coop-building workshops. We also plan to conduct a “Habitat for Hens” event to provide donated labor and coop materials for a family in need of a helping hand. A local hatchery (Farwest Hatchery) has agreed to donate feed and chicks to help the family get started. Several agencies have asked to collaborate with us on these events, helping to build a stronger, more cohesive community.

Attractive and inexpensive pre-made chicken coops are available on various websites for those who are not able to build their own. Books on coop construction can be checked out at the local library and free coop building instructions are available on the internet. Our website www.Chicken-Revolution.com has links to these resources.

Below are pictures of stationary coops and chicken tractors commonly found in the city:



A “chicken tractor” – a bottomless coop with wheels on the front that allow it to be easily moved around the yard like a wheelbarrow.

Chickens can fertilize different parts of the yard, and hunt for bugs, while remaining enclosed.

Attachment 6

Conclusion

During our two-year effort to legalize backyard chickens in Salem, we've talked to many people about this issue. The overwhelming majority think it's a great idea and support the ordinance. We have found that the minority few who oppose it, do so for one of three reasons:

- A. They are completely unfamiliar with chickens. I've had many conversations with people who say it's a bad idea "because of the roosters." When I explain that roosters are not needed to produce eggs, they are often shocked. Some will say they oppose the ordinance because "chickens will attract pests like cockroaches." Again, they do not understand that chickens eat bugs rather than attract them. If they are unfamiliar with these basic chicken facts, you have to wonder what else they are incorrect about.
- B. Their only experience with chickens is large-scale, raised-for-profit, commercial operations or farms. We've encountered a few people who adamantly oppose chickens because they know how smelly and filthy chicken coops can be because they used to live near a poultry facility. Yes, when hundreds or thousands of chickens are crammed into a giant barn or warehouse and treated like nothing more than egg-laying machines, it can be quite unpleasant. Urban hen-keepers do not support or condone this. This is exactly what we are working to avoid!
- C. Unfortunately, some people associate raising chickens with poverty. Sharon Astyk (Casaubon's Book) sums up this bias nicely when she writes:

"Among the basic subsistence activities legislated against by towns, cities and housing developments are:

1. Clotheslines instead of dryers. Reason: Looks poor. Might suggest you can't afford a dryer. Plus, you might see underwear that isn't your own. This is a major cause of sin.

2. No livestock, but large pets are acceptable. Reason: Ostensible reasons are health based, a few even broadly grounded in fact, real reason is that pets, which have no purpose other than companionship and cost money, are broadly a sign of affluence, while livestock are a sign of poverty, because they provide economic benefits.

3. No front yard gardens. Reason: The lawn is a sign of affluence - you have money, leisure and water enough to have a chunk of land, however tiny, that doesn't produce. It creates in many neighborhoods a seemingly contiguous, but basically sterile and safe seeming "public" green space that is actually privatized and not very green. Gardens, on the other hand, have dirty wildlife and bugs in them, and might grow food, which is bad because it implies you can't afford it."

Appendix A



U.S. City Dwellers Flock to Raising Chickens

Submitted by Ben Block on October 6, 2008 - 08:30.



Photo Courtesy Growing Gardens

At July's Tour De Coop, about 600 people visit, on average, 17 backyard chicken farms in Portland, Oregon, during the annual event organized by urban agriculture group Growing Gardens.

In the backyard of a suburban home in Denver, Colorado, 22 chickens are hiding out from the law.

They arrived when a member of [BackyardChickens](#), an online forum, ordered the birds in the mail this past May. "I actually get my chicks in today hopefully, and I am worried that animal control will be at the post office waiting for me with hand-cuffs," the new poultry farmer wrote.

An underground "urban chicken" movement has swept across the United States in recent years. Cities such as [Boston, Massachusetts](#), and [Madison, Wisconsin](#), are known to have had chickens residing illegally behind city fences.

But grassroots campaigns, often inspired by the expanding movement to buy locally produced food, are leading municipalities to allow limited numbers of hens within city limits.

Cities such as [Anne Arbor, Michigan](#); [Ft. Collins, Colorado](#); and [South Portland, Maine](#) have all voted in the past year to allow residents to raise backyard poultry. "It's a serious issue - it's no yolk," said Mayor Dave Cieslewicz of Madison, Wisconsin, when [his city reversed its poultry ban](#) in 2004. "Chickens are really bringing us together as a community. For too long they've been cooped up."

Raising backyard chickens is an extension of an [urban farming movement](#) that has gained popularity nationwide. Home-raised livestock or agriculture avoids the energy usage and carbon emissions typically associated with transporting food.

"Fresh is not what you buy at the grocery store. Fresh is when you go into your backyard, put it in your bag, and eat it," said [Carol-Ann Sayle](#), co-owner of five-acre (two-hectare) farm in [Austin, Texas](#), located within walking distance from the state capitol. "Everyone should have their own henhouse in their own backyard."

"Buying local" also provides an alternative to factory farms that pollute local ecosystems with significant amounts of animal waste - which can at times exceed the waste from a small U.S. city, a [government report](#) revealed last month. In the United States alone, industrial livestock production generates 500 million tons of manure every year. The waste also emits potent greenhouse gases, especially methane, which has 23 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide.

Attachment 6

Meanwhile, advocates insist that birds raised on a small scale are less likely to carry diseases than factory-farmed poultry, although some public health officials are concerned that backyard chickens could elevate avian flu risks.

Chicken: The 'Buy Local' Mascot

After the trend first gained popularity in London, England, with the invention of the "eglu" chicken house about ten years ago, large numbers of city dwellers began to raise chickens in the U.S. cities of Seattle and Portland, said Jac Smit, president of the [Urban Agriculture Network](#). "It's no longer something kinky or interesting," Smit said. "The 'chicken underground' has really spread so widely and has so much support."

Within the past five years, the trend has expanded to cities where raising hens was already legal, including [Los Angeles](#), [San Francisco](#), and [Chicago](#). "Chicken has become the symbol, a mascot even, of the local food movement," said Owen Taylor of New York City, who knows of at least 30 community gardens that raise poultry, mostly for their eggs. One Brooklyn home has raised upward of 50 hens. "We're the biggest city in the country, so to have it here I think blows people's minds."

K.T. LaBadie, a University of New Mexico graduate student, was born into a family that grew its own fruits and vegetables. So when she moved to Albuquerque and met a friend who was raising his own chickens, poultry was a logical progression in her own home. She began with two hens, and now she has four.

"It felt like a good compliment to our backyard gardening. We get compost from the chickens that goes back into the vegetable beds," LaBadie said. "And there's really nothing better than harvesting tomatoes and peppers from your garden and being able to make an omelet with it using a meal that was based in your backyard."

The spread of backyard chickens has promoted spin-off businesses that cater to the local market. Some communities are relying on [mobile slaughterhouses](#) to manage and distribute the poultry meat, according to Smit. "It's no longer huge slaughterhouses doing millions [of birds]. It's a guy driving around on a truck, visiting neighborhood to neighborhood," he said. "And it's not chickens only.... Duck, turkey, and quail are particularly attractive."

In Portland, Oregon, residents have organized a [farming cooperative \[video\]](#) to raise hens for egg production. "The money is used to maintain the cooperative. It's not necessarily organized to be a profit-sharing venture," said Debra Lippoldt, executive director of [Growing Gardens](#), a Portland urban agriculture advocacy group.

Public Health Concerns

If avian influenza eventually evolves to infect humans, experts fear that backyard chickens will be vectors of the disease. Government officials have threatened to ban free-range chickens in cities in Thailand, Indonesia, and Hong Kong, where bird flu has spread in the past. Governments around the world are also concerned that wild fowl will infect backyard chickens, leading to calls for similar bans in the Canadian province of [British Columbia](#) and in [Australia](#).

But several public health officials argue that homegrown poultry are not a disease threat if the chickens are properly maintained. "Make sure the roof of the pen has a solid cover to protect birds from fecal matter that may drop from birds flying overhead," said University of California at Davis poultry specialist Francine Bradley in a [statement released in 2005, at the peak of avian flu concerns](#). "We always tell people, don't let anyone near your birds who doesn't need to be there [due to fears of people carrying the virus]."

Sustainable farming advocates insist that backyard chickens are less of a concern than factory-farmed poultry, which the [Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production](#) has said poses serious risks of transmitting animal-borne diseases to human populations, especially due to the prevalence of antimicrobial resistance.

"When it comes to bird flu, diverse small-scale poultry farming is the solution, not the problem," the international sustainable agriculture organization [GRAIN](#) concluded in a [2006 report](#).

Attachment 6

For urban poultry farmers, a more relevant health issue is whether the chickens, which many owners consider to be pets, can survive urban wildlife, even in New York City. "It's awful how often flocks are decimated by raccoons or hawks or possums," said Owen Taylor, who runs the [City Farms](#) livestock program, an extension of the sustainable food organization [Just Food](#).

As the backyard chicken movement spreads, urban farmers are finding new ways of experiencing city living, whether their chickens are pets or dinner. "Raising chickens on a backyard stoop, especially if you have children, is agreeable," Smit said. "How you convince the kids you'll cut its neck and eat it is another thing."

Ben Block is a staff writer with the [Worldwatch Institute](#). He can be reached at bblock@worldwatch.org.

For permission to reprint this article, please contact Julia Tier at jtier@worldwatch.org.

[contact us](#) | [sign up for e-mail updates](#) | [join us](#) | [sitemap](#) | [privacy policy](#) | [terms of use](#)
© 2008 Worldwatch Institute | 1776 Massachusetts Ave., NW | Washington, DC 20036 | Phone: (202) 452-1999

Appendix B

Newsweek

The New Coop de Ville

The craze for urban poultry farming.

Jessica Bennett
NEWSWEEK

For Brooklyn real-estate agent Maria Mackin, the obsession started five years ago, on a trip to Pennsylvania Amish country. She, her husband and three children, now ages 17, 13 and 11 sat down for brunch at a local bed-and-breakfast, and suddenly the chef realized she'd run out of eggs. "She said, 'Oh goodness! I'll have to go out to the garden and get some more'," Mackin recalls. "She cooked them up and they were delicious." Mackin and her husband, Declan Walsh, looked at each other, and it didn't take long for the idea to register: Could we have chickens too? They finished their brunch and convinced the bed-and-breakfast owner, a Mennonite celery farmer, to sell them four chickens. They packed them in a little nest in the back of their Plymouth Voyager minivan and headed back to Brooklyn.

The family has been raising chickens ever since, in the backyard of their brick townhouse in an urban waterfront neighborhood called Red Hook. Every Easter, Mackin orders a new round of chicks, now from a catalog that ships the newborns in a ventilated box while they are still feeding from their yolks. When they are grown, she offers up their eggs and occasionally extra chickens, when she decides she's got too many, to friends and neighbors, and sells a portion to a local bistro, which touts the neighborhood poultry on its Web site. She gives the chicken manure, a high-quality fertilizer, to a local community garden in exchange for hay, which she uses to pad the chickens' wire-fenced coop. Occasionally, she kills and cooks up a chicken for dinner, "though, she says, her chickens are egg layers and aren't particularly tasty. "We joke and call ourselves the Red Hook Poultry Association," says the former social worker, who at one time housed 27 chicks inside her kitchen for six weeks. "Sometimes people are like, 'This is really kind of weird'."

As it turns out, Mackin is hardly an anomaly, in New York or any other urban center. Over the past few years, urban dwellers driven by the local-food movement, in cities from Seattle to Albuquerque, have flocked to the idea of small-scale backyard chicken farming, mostly for eggs, not meat, as a way of taking part in home-grown agriculture. This past year alone, grass-roots organizations in Missoula, Mont.; South Portland, Maine; Ann Arbor, Mich.; and Ft. Collins, Colo., have successfully lobbied to overturn city ordinances outlawing backyard poultry farming, defined in these cities as egg farming, not slaughter. Ann Arbor now allows residents to own up to four chickens, while the other three cities have six-chicken limits, subject to various spacing and nuisance regulations.

That quick growth in popularity has some people worried about noise, odor and public health, particularly in regard to avian flu. A few years back in Salt Lake City, which does not allow for backyard poultry farming, authorities had to impound 47 hens, 34 chicks and 10 eggs from a residential home after neighbors complained about incessant clucking and a wretched stench, along with wandering chickens and feathers scattered throughout the neighborhood. "The smell got to be unbelievable," one neighbor told the local news. Meanwhile, in countries from Thailand to Australia, where bird flu has spread in the past, government officials have threatened to ban free-range chickens for fear they are contributing to outbreaks. (In British Columbia, where officials estimated earlier this year that there are as many as 8,000 chicken flocks, an avian flu outbreak four years forced the slaughter of more than 17 million birds.)

But avian flu has not shown up in wild birds, domestic poultry or people in the United States. And, as the Washington-based Worldwatch Institute (an environmental research group) pointed out in a [report last month](#), experts including the Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production have said that if we do see it, it'll be more likely to be found in factory-farmed poultry than backyard chickens. As GRAIN, an international sustainable agriculture group, concluded in a 2006 report: "When it comes to bird flu, diverse small-scale poultry farming is the solution, not the problem."

Attachment 6

Many urban farmers are taking that motto to heart. In New York, where chickens (but not roosters, whose loud crowing can disturb neighbors) are allowed in limitless quantities, there are at least 30 community gardens raising them for eggs, and a City Chicken Project run by a local nonprofit that aims to educate the community about their benefits. In Madison, Wis., where members of a grass-roots chicken movement, the Chicken Underground, successfully overturned a residential chicken ban four years ago, there are now 81 registered chicken owners, according to the city's animal-services department. "There's definitely a growing movement," says 33-year-old Rob Ludlow, the Bay Area operator of BackyardChickens.com and the owner of five chickens of his own. "A lot of people really do call it an addiction. Chickens are fun, they have a lot of personality. I think people are starting to see that they're really easy pets and they actually produce something in return."

Because chickens can be considered both livestock and pet, farming them for eggs or keeping them as pets is unregulated in major cities like New York and Los Angeles. But it isn't legal everywhere. According to one recent examination by urban-agriculture expert Jennifer Blecha, just 65 percent of major cities allow chicken-keeping, while 40 percent allow for one or more roosters. (Hens don't need roosters to lay unfertilized eggs.)

Chicken slaughter, meanwhile, tends to fall under a separate (and generally stricter) set of regulations, though they're not always enforced. Most cities that allow chicken farming limit the number to four or six per household, so many urban farmers aren't raising enough chickens to slaughter and sell anyway, though they may cook up a meal or two at home. If they want to slaughter more, there are mobile slaughterhouses in places like Washington state that will do the dirty work for you: USDA-approved refrigerated trucks will pull right up to your doorstep.

Chicken farmers are finding each other on sites like TheCityChicken.com, UrbanChickens.org and MadCityChickens.com. BackyardChickens.com logs some 6 million page views each month and has some 18,000 members in its forum, where community members share colorful stories (giving a chicken CPR), photos (from a California chicken show), even look to each other for comfort. "I am worried that non-BYC people won't understand why a 34-year-old woman would cry over a \$7 chicken," writes a Stockton, N.J., woman, whose chicken was killed by a hawk.

Over at UrbanChickens.org, which launched this year, founder K. T. LaBadie, a master's student in community planning, provides updates on city ordinances, info about local chicken-farming classes and coop tours and has been contacted by activists hoping to overturn chicken bans around the nation. In Albuquerque, where she lives with her husband and four chickens, Gloria, Switters, Buffy and Omelet, residents can keep 15 chickens and one rooster, subject to noise ordinances, as well as slaughter the chickens for food. In July, LaBadie wrote in detail of her first killing: she and her husband hung the bird by its legs, slit its throat, plucked its feathers and put it on ice. Then they slow-cooked it for 20 hours. "It's not pretty, it's kinda messy, and it's a little smelly," she writes. "But it's quite real."

Meanwhile, at MadCityChickens.com, the Web site created by the Madison Chicken Underground, chat-line operator Dennis Harrison-Noonan has turned his chicken love into a mini-business: he's sold 2,000 design kits for his custom-made playhouse chicken coop, which retails for \$35. "It's really not that crazy to think that people are doing this," says Owen Taylor, the urban livestock coordinator at Just Food, which operates the New York Chicken Project. "Most of the world keeps chickens, and they've been doing so for thousands of years."

Historically, he's right. During the first and second world wars, the government even encouraged urban farming by way of backyard "Victory Gardens" in an effort to lessen the pressure on the public food supply. (Until 1859, there were 50,000 hogs living in Manhattan, according to Blecha.) "It's really only been over the last 50 years or so that we've gotten the idea that modernity and success and urban spaces don't involve these productive animals," Blecha says.

There are a host of reasons for the growing trend. "Locavores" hope to avoid the carbon emissions and energy consumption that come with transporting food. Chicken owners and poultry experts say eggs from backyard chickens are tastier and can be more nutritious, with higher levels of supplements like omega-3 fatty acids. Their production cost is cheap: you can buy chickens for as little as a couple of dollars, and three hens will likely average about two eggs a day. You can also use their waste to help revitalize a garden. "There've been recalls on everything from beef to spinach, and I think people want to have peace of mind knowing their food is coming from a very trusted source," says LaBadie. "As gas prices go up, and people realize how food is connected to oil and transportation, they are bound to realize they can get a higher quality product cheaper if they get it locally."

Keeping a chicken is relatively easy, too, assuming you don't get too attached. (That's a talk Mackin says she had with her kids early: these chickens aren't pets.) They'll eat virtually anything, pork products, string cheese, even

Attachment 6

Chinese takeout," she laughs, and they feed on bugs and pests that can ruin a garden. They can withstand harsh weather conditions. (In one oft-told tale, a Maine woman lost her chicken in a blizzard and found it, a day later, frozen solid with its feet stuck straight in the air. She thawed it and administered CPR. The chicken made a full recovery.) And much like New Yorkers, not much bothers chickens grown in urban environments. "[Those] raised in a really controlled environment like factory farms are very fragile, both physically and emotionally," says Blecha, who lives in St. Paul, Minn., with her partner and six chickens. "My chickens, I mow the lawn a foot away from them and they don't even look up from their pecking."

But even urban chickens, who can live more than five years, can die easily: from predators like dogs or possums, catching a cold or sometimes for no apparent reason at all. Once, one of Mackin's chicks got stuck in a glue trap. She drowned it, to put it out of its misery. "That was really sad," she says. (Mackin doesn't name her chickens, for that very reason.)

But the overall experience seems to be positive for everyone. "We have people calling weekly to say, 'This is really cool'," says Patrick Comfort, a spokesman for Madison's animal-services department, where the chicken ban was reversed in 2004. "Chicken people love it, the neighbors don't care, we have no complaints." Minneapolis enthusiast Albert Bourgeois sums up the appeal. "Chickens are really fun pets," he says. His flock is named Cheney, Condi, Dragon, Fannie and Freddie. The next one, he says, will be Obama.

URL: <http://www.newsweek.com/id/168740>

© 2008

Appendix C

Current City Ordinance in Salem Single Family Residential Zones

146.020. PERMITTED USES. The following uses, when developed under the general development standards in this zoning code applicable to the RS district and to all such uses, generally, are permitted in the RS district:

- (a) One single family dwelling, other than a manufactured home, per lot;
- (b) One duplex on a corner lot;
- (c) Manufactured homes in manufactured dwelling parks developed pursuant to SRC chapter 123.
- (d) Planned unit developments approved under SRC chapter 121.
- (e) The following agricultural uses:
 - (1) Agricultural production - crops (01) with no retail sales area;
 - (2) Timber tracts (081);
 - (3) Forest nurseries and tree seed gathering and extracting;
- (f) Playgrounds and parks.
- (g) Public buildings and structures, such as libraries and fire stations.
- (h) Rights-of-way for:
 - (1) Electric service lines;
 - (2) Gas mains, oil and gas transmission lines;
 - (3) Communications lines;
 - (4) Water lines; and
 - (5) Sewer lines.
- (i) Transit stop shelters.
- (j) Public utility structures and buildings such as pump stations and reservoirs, radiomicrowave relay stations, telephone substations, and electric substations.
- (k) Accessory uses and structures such as:
 - (1) Customary residential accessory buildings and structures for private use of the property and its occupants.
 - (2) A private garage or parking area;
 - (3) Storage for not more than one commercial vehicle per dwelling unit.
 - (4) Sleeping quarters for domestic employees of the resident of the main building;
 - (5) Guest houses and guest quarters not in the main building provided such houses and quarters are and remain dependent upon the main building for either kitchen or bathroom facilities, or both, and the guest facilities are used for temporary lodging and not as a place of residence;
 - (6) Swimming pools for private use;
 - (7) Home occupations;
 - (8) The taking of boarders or leasing of rooms by a resident family, providing the total number of boarders and roomers does not exceed two in any dwelling unit;
- (l) The following transitional uses. Where the side of a lot abuts property other than a street or alley in any C or I district, and the entire lot is within 165 feet of the C or I district:
 - (1) One duplex on a lot of 7,000 square feet or more;

Appendix D

Such term does not include the lease or rental of a dwelling unit or the rental of guest rooms on the same premises.

(g) **Hotel** means any building containing six or more guest rooms intended or designed to be used, or which are used, rented or hired out to be occupied or which are occupied for sleeping purposes by guests. (Ord No. 13-90; Ord No. 31-96; Ord No. 59-2000)

111.100. "I" Definitions.

(a) **Interested person** with respect to a land use action means any person or organization, or the duly authorized representative of either, having a right of appeal pursuant to SRC 114.200(a).

(b) **Interior lot.** See "lot, interior."

111.110. (Reserved for "J" definitions)

111.120. (Reserved for "K" definitions)

111.130. "L" Definitions.

(a) **Land use action** means a zone change, conditional zone change, variance, adjustment, conditional use approval, specific conditional use approval, planned unit development approval at any stage requiring commission or council action, or any other action requiring discretionary review by an administrative body, including appeals from any of the foregoing.

(b) **Land use proceeding** means a proceeding on a zone change, variance, adjustment, conditional use, specific conditional use, or planned unit development application; a council or commission initiated zone change proceeding; a proceeding to designate zoning classifications for a newly annexed area; or any other proceeding which will result in a land use action unless dismissed.

(c) **Landscaped** means primarily devoted to the planting and preservation of trees, shrubs, lawn and other organic ground cover, together with other natural or artificial supplements to that primary use such as watercourses, ponds, fountains, decorative lighting, benches, arbors, gazebos, bridges, rock or stone arrangements, pathways, sculpture, trellises, and screens.

(d) **Lattice Tower** means a freestanding support structure which consists of a network of crossed metal braces, forming a tower which is usually triangular or square in cross-section.

→ (e) **Livestock** means one or more members of any species of cattle, swine, sheep, goat, poultry, horse or other equine, or llama, alpaca or related ruminant, regardless of the purpose for which any of the foregoing may be kept; and of any species of rabbit, bee, or fur-bearing animal kept for sale, for sale of by-products, for livestock increase, or for value increase.

(f) **Loading space** means an off-street space or bay on the same lot or parcel with a building or complex for the parking of a vehicle while loading or unloading passengers or cargo.

Appendix E

- (2) Community or neighborhood club buildings, including swimming pools and similar recreation facilities, when operated by a nonprofit community club.
- (m) Residential home.
- (n) Child day care homes and babysitting.
- (o) Adult day care home.
- (p) On-site response actions in accordance with applicable law to discharges of oil and releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants. (Ord No. 53-83; Ord No. 5-84; Ord No. 146-84; Ord No. 149-84; Ord No. 16-85; Ord No. 17-88; Ord No. 71-91; Ord No. 28-92; Ord No. 2-93; Ord No. 18-94; Ord No. 32-2000)

146.030. SPECIAL USES. (a) The following uses, when restricted, developed and conducted as required in SRC chapter 119, are permitted in the RS district:

- (1) Funeral service (726) except crematories.
 - (2) Public golf courses (7992).
 - (3) Membership sports and recreation clubs (7997) having golf courses.
 - (4) Elementary and secondary schools (821).
 - (5) Religious organizations (866).
 - (6) Boat and recreational vehicle storage area.
 - (7) Zero side yard dwellings.
 - (8) Two family shared housing.
 - (9) Public automobile parking areas.
 - (10) Manufactured homes on individual lots.
 - (11) Bed and breakfast establishments.
 - (12) Adult day care center.
 - **(13) Keeping of a miniature swine.**
 - (14) Residential Sales/Development Office.
 - (15) Existing wildlife rehabilitation facility.
 - (16) Construction of a replacement single family dwelling unit on an individual lot.
 - (17) Antennas attached to existing or approved structures.
 - (18) Parking for Special Activities at High Schools with Community Parks.
 - (19) Cottage Housing.
- (b) In lieu of establishing any use listed in subsection (a) of this section as a special use under SRC Chapter 119, the developer may elect to apply for conditional use approval pursuant to SRC Chapter 117 or 118. See SRC 119.010. (Ord No. 149-84; Ord No. 16-85; Ord No. 17-88; Ord No. 13-90; Ord No. 3-91; Ord No. 10-91; Ord No. 81-92; Ord No. 2-93; Ord No. 67-93; Ord No. 18-94; Ord No. 48-94; Ord No. 16-95; Ord No. 82-96; Ord No. 57-2000; Ord No. 25-2004; Ord No. 30-05)

Attachment 6

119.030. through 119.040. Reserved for Expansion.

119.050. VETERINARY SERVICES FOR ANIMAL SPECIALTIES. Where permitted as a special use, veterinary services for animal specialties (SIC 0742) shall meet the following additional use and development standards:

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, all operations shall be conducted within completely enclosed and soundproof buildings.
- (b) Outside runs for dogs and other animals shall be operated only between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with an attendant present on the premises. Outside runs shall be located at least 60 feet from every property zoned or used for residential purposes. Outside runs shall be screened from adjacent properties and streets by a sight-obscuring fence, wall, or hedge.

 **119.070. KEEPING OF MINIATURE SWINE.** Where permitted as a special use, not more than one miniature swine of the species *Sus scrofa bittatus* (commonly known as a "potbellied pig") per dwelling unit may be kept provided the following conditions are met and maintained:

- (a) The animal is less than 100 pounds in weight;
- (b) The animal is less than 18 inches in height at the shoulder;
- (c) The animal is spayed or neutered as evidenced by a veterinarian's certificate, which certificate shall also certify the species of the animal, its age, shoulder height and weight when spayed or neutered. (Ord No. 67-93)

119.080 WILDLIFE REHABILITATION FACILITY. Where permitted as a special use, a wildlife rehabilitation facility shall meet the following additional use and nonvariable development standards:

- (a) Commercial activities such as breeding or raising wildlife for sale or trade, or the sale or trade of animal products shall be prohibited.
- (b) If a dwelling is used for wildlife rehabilitation, the total floor area used for wildlife rehabilitation shall not exceed 25 percent of the habitable space of that dwelling.
- (c) No structural alterations shall be made to any dwelling which would be inconsistent with future use of the building exclusively as a dwelling.
- (d) Proper sanitation must be maintained at all times. Property sanitation includes, but is not limited to:
 - (1) Not allowing wildlife waste to adversely affect the health of the wildlife itself, property residents, or neighbors.
 - (2) Taking necessary steps to ensure odors are not detectable beyond property lines.
 - (3) Storing of all wildlife food in rodent- and pest-resistant containers.
 - (4) Butchering, processing, or maintaining live or dead animals or fowl on-site as food for wildlife being rehabilitated shall be conducted entirely within an enclosed building.
- (e) Inspection of all cages and wildlife facilities by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and federal agencies as required.
- (f) All wildlife must be naturally occurring in Oregon as defined in ORS Chapter 496.
- (g) Current and continuing licensing by the state of Oregon as a wildlife rehabilitator or conducting wildlife rehabilitation under the supervision of a licensed rehabilitator.

Appendix F



Information for animal owners in Oregon



- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| Definition of livestock | Keeping exotic animals | Travel with animals within US |
| Animals legal in Oregon | Livestock loose on my property | Traveling with pets outside US |
| Certificate of Vet Inspection | Livestock transportation | |
| Disposal of dead animals | ODA State Veterinarian | |
| Dead livestock identification | Pasture Permit | |
| Found "exotic" animals | Rabies vaccination questions | |

Definition of livestock

"Livestock" refers only to

- cattle, (but does not include bison, or yak)
- horses, mules, donkeys, asses, (all equidae)
- sheep and goats, and
- all swine except potbellied pigs and feral swine.



Animals legal in Oregon

Which animals are not legal to keep in Oregon? Check the [Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Integrity Rules](#).

Certificate of Vet Inspection

What is a ["Certificate of Veterinary Inspection"](#), when and why do I need one?

Disposal of dead animals

Any dead domestic animal within one-half mile of any dwelling or within one-fourth mile of any running stream of water must be disposed of within 15 hours (ORS 601.140). The owner may choose to bury it, burn it, move it farther from the dwelling or stream, or have it hauled away by commercial rendering company or a commercial carcass pickup service .

If buried, no part of the body shall be nearer than four feet to the natural surface of the ground and every part of such body shall be covered with quicklime and by at least four feet of earth. (ORS 601.090(7))

Exemptions

If the carcass is more than one-fourth mile from a running stream of water or more than one-half mile from any dwelling, and on the owner 's property, the owner is not required to take any action.

Note: The Oregon [Department of Environmental Quality](#) may have requirements or recommendations for burial near wells, septic systems, or streams. Contact them at 503-229-5696.

Appendix G



Office of Mayor Sam Adams
City of Portland

February 25, 2009

Mayor Janet Taylor and Members of the Salem City Council
555 Liberty St. SE, Room 220
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mayor Taylor and Members of the Salem City Council,

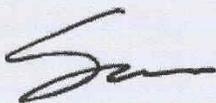
The City of Portland has a long-standing code that allows its residents up to three hens per property without a permit. We also have a permit process to consider larger home flocks. This has presented a tremendous opportunity for Portland families to engage in sustainable food practices, and enjoy eggs from their flock. I personally have two chickens at home in my back yard.

Responsible chicken-keeping in our city is something we encourage and promote. To meet the challenge of our current economic climate, we are doing all we can to support programs and policies that encourage residents to incorporate sustainability in everyday life. In that way, allowing urban chickens—an economical source of an everyday food staple—has never made more sense. Residents can also enroll in classes through our Urban Growth Bounty program and learn how to keep a backyard flock safe, sound and healthy.

I'm confident that more cities can craft reasonable policies to ensure urban chicken keeping is allowable, while minimizing impacts on neighbors. I absolutely encourage you to adopt the proposed amendment and allow Salem residents to keep backyard chickens.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mayor Sam Adams

CC: Chickens in the Yard (C.I.T.Y.)

Attachment 6



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON
OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Randy Leonard, Commissioner
1221 S.W. 4th Avenue, Room 210
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 823-4682
Fax: (503) 823-4019
randy@ci.portland.or.us

November 19, 2008

Mayor Taylor and Members of the Salem City Council
555 Liberty St SE, Room 220
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mayor Taylor and Members of the Salem City Council,

The City of Portland has allowed its residents up to 3 hens per property for many years. To my knowledge, we have not experienced any significant problems relating to reduced property values or threats to public health as a result of the hens co-existing with city residents.

Citizens of Portland enjoy having chickens as pets as well as the eggs they provide. As a City Commissioner, I feel it is important to provide this option to our citizens and see no reason why the citizens of Salem should not enjoy the same opportunity.

I have reviewed the proposed amendment drafted by citizens of Salem and find it fair and reasonable.

Given the current economic conditions and the growing trend to live a more sustainable lifestyle, keeping a few backyard hens has never been more practical. Thus, I urge you to adopt the proposed amendment to allow Salem residents to enjoy this privilege.

If I can help address your concerns or help in any way, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Commissioner Randy Leonard

Attachment 6

Chickens in an urban setting

Georgia Sabol <gsabol@ci.olympia.wa.us>

Thursday, March 12, 2009 7:51:06 AM

To: "salemchickens@yahoo.com" <salemchickens@yahoo.com>

Our city council decided to allow hens in the City of Olympia six or seven years ago. As I said over the phone, it would be difficult to go back and find out exactly how many chicken complaints per year prior to allowing them. I am sure that since hens are allowed we have fewer complaints, I'd say five or less per year. The complaints are mostly about roosters crowing. We've had several complaints about someone having too many hens.

I believe that we now receive fewer complaints because the "chicken advocates" were good about educating new owners care of their hens. It seems that we never get complaints about hens out wondering loose anymore. Good fences (pens) do make good neighbors.

I also should mention that we in code enforcement were not keen on the chickens being allowed. However, that attitude has completely changed.

Georgia Sabol
Code Enforcement Officer
Community Planning & Development
360-753-8393

Attachment 6

Chickens - City of Eugene

From: **MCDONALD Janis K** (Janis.K.MCDONALD@ci.eugene.or.us)
Sent: Wed 1/07/09 9:57 AM
To: getaholdofBP@hotmail.com
Cc: MCKERROW Mike J (Mike.J.MCKERROW@ci.eugene.or.us)

Hello Barbara,

Here is the information you requested:

We had 11 chicken-related complaints in 2008. All of these were prompted by the presence of a rooster(s). One also included sanitary/odor issues and house proximity to the adjacent property line, two included the issue of more than two hens.

If possible, we will try to call the property owner right away to get something done about the rooster noise. We send an Order to Correct requiring the rooster(s) be gone as soon as possible, maximum 5 days, or civil penalties may be levied. Our enforcement notifications go to the property owner, with a copy to the tenants. When talking with the owner and/or tenant, we will ask that they keep the rooster inside/contained during the interim to try and stop the noise quickly. They are usually gone soon after making contact. In many cases the residents got 'chicks' that had been sexed incorrectly and one/two turned out to be a rooster. We do get calls about just the hens too, usually to confirm how many are permitted, or what the other regulations are; some neighbors will try to work out small problems to avoid filing a written complaint against their neighbor. In 5 of the cases we needed Spanish-speaking assistance, either by someone in the household or by staff.

Our zoning regulations were adopted by the Lane County Commissioners for all property within the Urban Growth Boundary of the City of Eugene, so these regulations apply beyond the city limits.

Our regulations may be found on our website: www.eugene-or.gov
Select Resources at the top menu, Eugene Code, and scroll down to Chapter 9, then Section 9.5250, which is titled Farm Animals.

Hope this is helpful.

Janis McDonald
Land Use Inspector
City of Eugene
682-8452

Attachment 6

Keeping of chickens in the City of Madison]

From: **Tucker, Matthew** (MTucker@cityofmadison.com)

Sent: Fri 1/30/09 11:52 AM

To: getaholdofbp@hotmail.com

Barbara-

You had asked for a brief summary in regard to our Zoning Code enforcement experience relative to our ordinance allowing the keeping of chickens in the City.

Our enforcement practice is primarily based upon the submission of a complaint, which results in the creation of an inspections case. Generally, **we receive less than 10 complaints in a typical calendar year**. The majority of complaints relate to roosters being on site, too many chickens on site, or coops/shelters/enclosures that are placed too close to neighbors homes or property lines. It is not uncommon for us to discover that the person(s) keeping the chickens has not obtained the required city license, which is a simple issue to resolve.

I would say the enforcement burden of managing this ordinance is fairly minimal, as we put the majority of the responsibility for compliance on the party desiring to keep the chickens. Our mission is to educate folks on the regulations first, and save more significant enforcement action where voluntary compliance is not achieved. I cannot specifically recall any cases where a municipal citation was issued or a case was referred to the City Attorney's office for prosecution. Voluntary compliance is usually the result of any orders sent.

Also, please note, the City recently revisited our "keeping of chickens" ordinance. The legislative file with the bulk of pertinent information may be found at this link:
<http://legistar.cityofmadison.com/detailreport/?key=12318>

Feel free to call or reply with any questions.

Matt Tucker

Zoning Administrator

Department of Planning and Community and Economic Development

Building Inspection Division, City Of Madison

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

PO Box 2984

Madison, WI 53701-2984

608/266-4569 PH

mtucker@cityofmadison.com

<http://www.cityofmadison.com>

Attachment 6



Office of the Common Council

Aldersperson Marsha Rummel

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Room 417

Madison, Wisconsin 53703-3345

PH 608.266.4071

FAX 608.267.8669

Textnet 866.704.2340

www.cityofmadison.com/council/district06

February 23, 2009

Mayor Janet Taylor
555 Liberty Street SE, Room 220
Salem, OR 97301

Salem City Council Councilors
555 Liberty Street SE, Room 220
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mayor Taylor and City Councilors:

I understand that the City of Salem is considering legislation that would allow residents to keep up to five hens in single-family zones. I am writing to share Madison's experience with urban chickens.

In May 2004, the Common Council of Madison, Wisconsin adopted an ordinance allowing up to four chickens to be kept in single-family residential districts, with the same provisions (no roosters, no slaughtering, etc.) that Salem's proposal includes. Our ordinance has not proved to be problematic or costly in terms of enforcement. Madison, a city with a population of over 200,000, receives only about ten chicken-related complaints a year. In fact, it has been so non-controversial that in June 2008, I was pleased to introduce an amendment allowing chickens to be kept in all residential districts. That amendment was adopted in September 2008, with the following additional provisions:

- Keeping of up to four chickens on a lot with up to four dwelling units.
- The applicant for a license notifies all residents within 200' of the lot.
- Not more than 50% of the residents notified object within 14 days of notification.

Interest in urban chicken-keeping is growing around the country. Residents appreciate having the opportunity to participate in growing their own food and keeping a domestic animal that provides satisfaction to so many. In this era of concerns about food safety and the financial squeeze on families during this recession, allowing chickens is a win-win situation.

I hope you allow residents to keep chickens!

Sincerely,

Aldersperson Marsha Rummel
Madison Common Council, Sixth District

Attachment 6



April 27, 2009

Barbara Palermo
Chickens in the Yard (C.I.T.Y.)
Salem , Oregon
Letter Emailed: [salemchickens@yahoo.com]

Dear Ms. Palermo,

I am responding to your phone and email requests for information about keeping chickens in Lake Oswego.

LAKE OSWEGO
REDEVELOPMENT
AGENCY (LORA)

Question: *It is my understanding there is no limit to the number of chickens people can have in Lake Oswego. Is that correct? Can you please tell me what policies are in place regarding keeping chickens?*

CITY OF
LAKE OSWEGO

380 A Avenue
P.O. Box 369
Lake Oswego
Oregon 97034

(503) 635-0235
Fax (503) 697-6594
www.ci.oswego.or.us

Answer: The City's Community Development Code, LOC 31.02, [Animals and Fowl], pertains to the keeping of chickens within the City of Lake Oswego. It does not establish a maximum number of chickens allowed on a site; however, it does address possible negative impacts to neighbors by establishing what conduct is prohibited and regulated from animals and from their keepers. (Please see high-lighted sections of the attached "Animals and Fowl" regulation). Chickens are not regulated as a "use" within Lake Oswego zone districts, and therefore, are allowed in each zone district.

Question: *Has Lake Oswego's current "Animals and Fowl" policy proven to be an enforcement problem? How many complaints are on record?*

Answer: I have worked for the City since October, 2008, and I have not received any complaints against livestock. Also, I reviewed the City's Complaint Log since 2005 and was not able to find a complaint case filed against livestock.

Question: *Do people generally do a good job of keeping their chickens (e.g. treat them as pets, etc)?*

Answer: I have received 3 or 4 inquires from parents about keeping chickens at their home. All of these inquiries were related to educating their children about the raising of fowl for eggs as a food source.

Please give me a call (ph. 503-699-7473) or send me an email [byoungblood@ci.oswego.or.us] if you have questions or otherwise need additional information.



Thank you,

Bill Youngblood
Bill Youngblood
Code Enforcement Specialist

Attachment 6

THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY

23-A NORTH MAIN STREET
CRANBURY, NEW JERSEY 08512

DAVID J. STOUT
Mayor

609-395-0900 FAX 609-395-8861

Members of the Township Committee

WINTHROP CODY
DAVID COOK
RICHARD STANNARD
DAVID J. STOUT
JAMES TAYLOR



CHRISTINE SMELTZER,
Township Administrator/Chief Financial Officer
KATHLEEN R. CUNNINGHAM, R.M.C.,
Clerk
DENISE MARABELLO,
Assistant Administrator/Director of Finance
JERRY THORNE, C.P.W.M.,
Public Works Manager

August 22, 2010

Per your request I am writing to share Cranbury Township New Jersey's experience with backyard/home agriculture. I have served as Cranbury's zoning official for over 25 years. During this entire period Cranbury has permitted its residents unlimited agricultural use of any property in all zoning districts. In fact Cranbury encourages Home Agriculture and our Ordinance **150-11 Uses Permitted in All Zones** establishes and protects the right to both commercial and home agriculture. Our definition **150-7 Home Agriculture** specifically includes poultry. I am aware of several residents keeping chickens however I am not aware of any complaints associated with backyard/home agriculture during my tenure. Allowing residents this use of their property has not added cost nor has it been an enforcement burden. In fact, in these current stressful economic times, I am pleased that Cranbury has chosen to permit our citizens this opportunity to practice a simple, low-impact, self-sufficient lifestyle that is fostered by our Home Agriculture Ordinance.

I encourage you to adopt the backyard or home agriculture ordinance so that your community members can enjoy the benefits of backyard agriculture.

If I can address any of your concerns, feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey K. Graydon
Zoning Official

(609) 655-0470

Attachment 6

www.willamette.edu



WILLAMETTE
THE FIRST UNIVERSITY IN THE WEST

900 STATE STREET
SALEM, OR 97301

PROFESSOR JOE BOWERSOX
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
DEMPSEY ENDOWED CHAIR IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY
900 STATE STREET
SALEM, OR 97301
503-370-6220
JBOWERSO@WILLAMETTE.EDU

January 7, 2009

Mayor Janet Taylor &
City of Salem Council Members
555 Liberty St SE
Room 220
Salem OR 97301

Dear Mayor Taylor and City of Salem Council Members,

The Center for Sustainable Communities at Willamette University would like to encourage the City of Salem to join many other cities across the country in permitting individual households to raise limited numbers of chickens. In doing so, Salem would join other Oregon cities, including Portland, Corvallis, Eugene, Gresham, Beaverton, Hillsboro and Milwaukie. With proper regulation prohibiting the presence of roosters and mandating proper enclosures, these cities have demonstrated that chickens can indeed be kept in urban and suburban environments and not adversely affect public health, livability, or property values. In fact, as these cities have demonstrated, allowing residents to raise chickens can improve the diet, pocket book, and sustainability of individual households.

Residential chickens have been shown to offer many benefits:

- 3 hens can lay an average of 2 eggs per day (without the presence of a rooster). During our current economic downturn, these eggs can provide a valuable and economical source of protein to families;
- Chicken waste is a great fertilizer for backyard gardens;
- Chickens offer a means of natural pest control in an enclosed yard – eating aphids, grubs and other numerous garden pests. This reduces the needs for chemicals, and helps keep our urban watersheds clean of substances toxic to aquatic species;
- Chickens provide children and their families with a great opportunity to learn about being responsible and caring for animals, as well as an appreciation about where our food comes from.
- Hens are quiet and go to sleep once the sun goes down.

In these tough economic times, the Center encourages the Salem City Council to adopt the draft ordinance developed by the group “Chickens in the Yard.” Modeled after successful ordinances in effect in cities across the country, we believe the ordinance facilitates the benefits noted above while protecting public health and safety.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joe Bowersox

Director, Center for Sustainable Communities

Attachment 6



470 Lancaster Drive NE | Salem, OR 97301 | www.tilth.org | PH 503.378.0690 | FX 503.378.0809 | organic@tilth.org

To the Mayor and Councilors of Salem;

As the garden coordinator for Oregon Tilth, I am writing in support of "Chickens in the Yard."

Oregon Tilth is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to supporting and promoting sustainable agriculture through education, research, organic certification and advocacy. The Organic Education Center, a project of Oregon Tilth, is a land-based resource hub for biologically sound, backyard gardening and farming. Each year, our organic demonstration garden plays host to hundreds of community members who convene to learn more about the ease and abundance of growing their own food.

In recent seasons, we've witnessed a groundswell of interest in backyard homesteading and hands-on living in the urban centers of the Pacific Northwest. Chickens are an integral and important part of this movement for a number of reasons:

1. Chickens provide a consistent and healthy source of food for the family. Eggs are a valuable treasure to the backyard homesteader.
2. Chickens can be a great source of fertility for the garden. Poultry manure is high in Nitrogen, and helps to create rich, natural compost, further diminishing the need to buy expensive (and possibly harmful) fertilizers.
3. Chickens are expert bug hunters, controlling unwanted and damaging garden pests. Again, this service reduces the gardener's need to buy inputs, like pesticides.
4. Chickens make extraordinary pets. They are a pleasure to watch and require relatively minimal care. People of all ages are inspired to raise chicks, from peepers to egg producers, and as such, chickens add an interesting and educational dimension to the neighborhood.

Overall, keeping chickens in the backyard is an endeavor that connects an urban population to its food source. It creates a sense of self-sufficiency both through the production of food, and through the provision of helpful services, such as pest control and soil fertility.

Oregon Tilth is encouraged to know that the city of Salem values the diversity of a productive, and sustainable, urban landscape. We hope you give due consideration to the motion brought forth by Chickens in the Yard.

Sincerely,

Conner Voss
Demonstration Garden Coordinator
Oregon Tilth
503.798.8906
conner@tilth.org

Attachment 6

December 5, 2008

Mayor Janet Taylor
555 Liberty St. SE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Keeping Chickens in Salem

Dear Mayor Taylor,

I've been asked to write a letter concerning the keeping of chickens in Salem. I base my comments on my profession and experience. For eleven years I've taught Environmental Conservation and Sustainability at Oregon State University. I constantly encourage my students to "Rethink" their lifestyle to become more sustainable. For the long term sustainability of our culture, the world's resources, and economic viability, we must think more sustainably.

"Buying Local" has become a mantra of the sustainability movement in the Willamette Valley. The most "local" of all food is produced at home. Vegetable gardens, fruit trees, berry bushes, all help reduce consumption of resources, reduces synthetic chemical use, keeps local communities viable, and almost as a bonus the taste of home grown food is awesome.

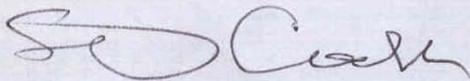
But in addition to my profession, proselytizing for sustainability, I have a practical side, having a blue collar background, I live a frugal lifestyle. Producing food at home saves money, it is as simple as that.

Most of my life I've had chickens around. I like chickens. They are much more fun to watch than a sleeping cat. Mine all have names—Helen (she sleeps next to my lawn chair), Buffy (a buff orpington), Sexy (a golden sexlink) etc. They have unique personalities. But enough silliness. They also lay eggs. People keep chickens for their eggs. As a bonus they consume organic kitchen scraps, reducing the garbage load of society. Finally, chicken manure is a high-nitrogen fertilizer. In one day food scraps become fertilizer. Many people have compost piles and one problem with a compost pile is that it attracts "disease vectors" (as a Corvallis Public Works employee explained to me). With chickens, edible organic waste is consumed the day it is put out, thus reducing these "disease vectors" (disease vector is pronounced "RAT").

Chickens eating fresh organic food, including grass, produce eggs with a bright orange, high beta carotene yolk, so the eggs not only taste better, they are better for you. I've also sold surplus eggs for five years and paid for all of my feed, so they even pay their way.

In conclusion, I encourage you to help the people of Salem help themselves to become more sustainable by allowing them to keep chickens.

Sincerely,



Steve Cook, PhD
Sr. Instructor of Geosciences, OSU
Proud owner of a flock of backyard chickens

Appendix H

DEPARTMENT OF
ANIMAL SCIENCES



James C. Hermes, PhD
Extension Poultry Specialist
Associate Professor

112 Withycombe Hall
Corvallis OR, 97331-6702

Tel: (541) 737-2254

Fax: (541) 737-4174

email:
james.hermes@oregonstate.edu

January 26, 2009

To: Troy Bissell

Re: Questions on Urban Chickens

There is great interest in recent years in raising a few hens in urban settings. In fact, most cities in Oregon and nationwide allow a few chickens (usually between 3 and 6) within their city limits. Hens can be a great addition to a backyard with only minimal management required. Their care requirements are no more than that of dogs or cats with the advantage that hens produce eggs for the family and their manure can be used to enhance the compost pile and is an excellent fertilizer for the garden. When considering chickens in urban areas the concerns usually center around five areas; Noise, Odor, Flies, Rodents and Disease. However, these concerns are typically not a problem in small flocks of hens when they are managed appropriately. I will address each of these concerns.

Noise: Hens are relatively quiet animals. They cluck and cackle but these noises are usually confined to a few minutes a day most often following egg laying. It is the rooster that makes annoying crowing noises most of the day. It is a misconception that the rooster is needed in a flock of hens. Hens will lay perfectly well without the presence of a rooster so in an urban environment roosters are usually not allowed. As urban pets go, a barking dog is far more annoying than cackling hens.

Odor: As with any animal, odors are a potential problem and of course chickens are no different. However, when well managed, odor is not a problem, which can also be said of well managed dogs and cats. With regular cleaning, the litter from a small chicken pen is a valuable addition to any compost container or an excellent fertilizer for a garden. Once added to the compost or tilled into the soil, the odor causing compounds are no longer able to cause objectionable odors. This is a great addition to any small "sustainable" urban garden.

Flies: Probably the most common misconception is that flies increase when chickens are present. This is true when chickens are raised in cages, unable to scratch around in the litter. However, chickens that are housed in floor pens are able to find and eat any fly larvae (maggots) before they develop into flies. Flies lay eggs in high moisture manure or other decaying matter. When the manure is collected regularly for the compost and the chickens have access flies never develop into a problem. Once again, a poorly managed backyard with some dogs or cats can also have problems with flies.

Attachment 6

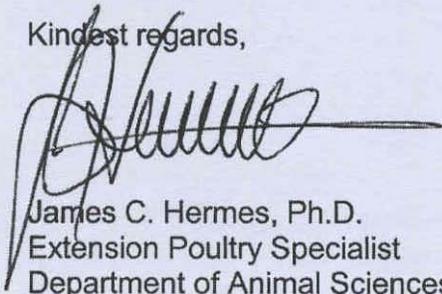
Rodents: Mice and rats can be associated with poultry operations. Their presence is usually the result of spilled feed which the rodents seek out and find. However, if feeding is done carefully with minimal spillage and feed is stored in metal or plastic containers instead of bags, rodent populations are controlled. In addition, rodent control efforts such as trapping or baiting are necessary to keep their numbers low. Once again, dog or cat feed stored improperly will have the same result, increased rodent populations.

Diseases: Chickens are relatively healthy animals. Being birds, their diseases rarely cross into mammalian populations. Recent concerns expressed in the media suggest that "Bird Flu" is of concern with chickens. While there are potential disease problems with all animals major problems are rare and "bird flu" of the type noted in the media has not been diagnosed in the whole of the Western Hemisphere and may not ever find its way here. Typical hygiene methods of hand washing and isolation of these flocks are very effective in reducing these concerns.

Small numbers of hens can be a great addition to any urban family backyard. They provide enjoyment to the whole family, they produce eggs for the family and fertilizer for the garden. The problems are minimized by proper management and should cause no more problems than those raised by the presence of dogs or cats.

I hope that I have answered your questions concerning chickens in an urban setting.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James C. Hermes', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

James C. Hermes, Ph.D.
Extension Poultry Specialist
Department of Animal Sciences
OSU

Attachment 6

Appendix I



To: City of Salem, City Council
From: Terry Cain, Farwest Hatchery - Owner
Date: September 12, 2010
RE: Salem Chicken Ordinance

I am a local hatchery owner, who will most likely be providing a good share of Salem residents with chicks, once they are legal to be kept. I would like to address a few of the aspects of keeping chickens in one's backyard.

I've personally been in the poultry industry for more than 30 years. Farwest Hatchery sells approximately 177 different breeds. Of which, I recommend only a few for the urban backyard owner. The birds I recommend carry the traits that are best suited for urban life: adapt to confinement, quiet, not flighty, disease resistant, human social able, hardy and good egg producers.

All the breeds I would recommend for the urban owner would also come from our own feather-sexed breeder stock. Feather-sexed stock carries the Long Feather Rooster gene which gives us the ability to distinguish males from females based upon the pin feather pattern on the wings of newly hatched chicks. Farwest Hatchery's reputation will stand upon our ability to sex these chicks with 98% accuracy. In talking with both, rural and urban chicken owners, we know there is a concern in purchasing (from feed stores and out of state hatcheries) pullets (hens) and receiving many cockrels (males).

We also have several breeds which can be color sexed. Color sexed chicks can be identified as male or female when they hatch simply based upon their color.

The old and standby method of vent sexing, actually looking at the genitals, is also our third method.

Between our 3 methods we can almost guarantee the sex of our chicks. When we know the chicks will be going to an urban owner, we will cater to their special sexing needs to greatly reduce the risk of introducing roosters to the cities.

Attachment 6



We exhibited recently at the Oregon State Fair. The interest in urban chickens is overwhelming. These sentiments came not only from Salem residents but also from folks visiting from all over the country. We have heard story after story of how the backyard chicken has been a good thing. Many of the stories we heard carried a similar theme from moms, dads, and grandparents.

"I've got 3 chickens and the children are playing in the backyard. My children have never wanted to play in the backyard."

"My husband is building a chicken coop with our sons. My husband has never built anything with his sons."

"Our family sat down together for dinner tonight for a meal prepared with our own eggs. The children took special interest in the meal because they had participated in the process from feeding chicks to gathering eggs to preparation."

If it takes 3 chickens in the backyard to bring families back together then,
"God bless the chicken".

In closing, thank you for your consideration in the matter of the urban backyard chicken ordinance. We at Farwest Hatchery believe there are a lot more important things to worry about than chickens in the backyard. Remember, they are in our backyard too.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terry J. Cain". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Owner / Manager

Attachment 6

Friday, August 13, 2010 4:05 PM

From: "robert@urbanfarmstore.com" <robert@urbanfarmstore.com>

To: "Barbara Palermo" salemchickens@yahoo.com



Garden, Pet and Homestead

To Whom It May Concern,

As the owner of a successful Oregon small business catering to urban chicken keepers and the author of an upcoming book on the subject, I would like to add my experienced voice to the debate concerning keeping chickens in Salem.

It has been brought to my attention that there is a particular concern about unwanted roosters and hens. While this is potentially a problem, we have found it relatively easy to set-up a humane relocation program through our store. Unwanted chickens are brought in by customers (and non-customers alike) on Sundays in boxes. From there, they are picked-up by a part-time employee who re-sells the roosters and hens, with the roosters going to country flocks and breeders. He shelters unsellable but otherwise healthy chickens for the duration of their lives on his farm where they assimilate into his own large, free range flocks. In both scenarios, he medicates the birds to protect his flock, rendering them unfit to be eaten for several weeks, which is really not a big concern because the laying breeds that backyard enthusiasts keep are not very appropriate for eating for a variety of reasons. Likewise, they are not suitable for fighting.

We are so happy with this arrangement, and confident that it can be expanded, that we would welcome birds from the Salem area for keepers in need who are willing to make the drive. I would also be happy to consult with a local store or individual to set something up for your area.

I should also mention that our store runs free bi-monthly chicken keeping education classes that have helped hundreds of people learn what to expect and how to avoid common, usually minor, problems. We would welcome our friends from the valley to these classes and I's also consider doing one or two down there.

In closing, it has been my experience that urban chicken keeping is an fun, easy, humane and educational hobby. It has connected thousands of suburbanites and urbanites with where their food comes from while providing a low-cost, high-quality source of food. I strongly support home poultry keeping wherever appropriate.

If you have any further questions, please contact me through the store.

Sincerely,

Robert Litt

Urban Farm Store
2100 SE Belmont Street
Portland, Oregon 97214
Phone (503) 234-7733
www.urbanfarmstore.com

Attachment 6



1313 Main Street
Dallas, OR 97338

July 22, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been involved in providing baby chicks to local residents since 1997. Over that time, we have sold more than 20,000 newly hatched pullets. One might assume that some of those reside in Salem.

Annually, we host Chick Day, The Poultry Event of the Year, on the first Saturday in April. This is a family event, where children accompany parents or grandparents to see, hold, and perhaps pick up some chickens for their family flock. Those same families come back year after year in a ritual that has become a rite of spring. Unlike livestock, chickens are relatively easy to keep in the most basic of structures, allowing even young children to experience the simple act of caring for another living being while developing an appreciation for our food supply.

Although many would question the motives behind an organization that claims to know what's best for Salem from 3000 miles away, let me address some of the concerns raised by those folks in Vermont. This comes from experience, not theory.

Most hatcheries guarantee 90% accuracy in sexing chicks. I have found that the better hatcheries exceed 95% overall. Just this morning, a customer mentioned to me that he had gotten one rooster in the batch of 24 chicks he had purchased this year. I consider that ratio typical. For those who want full assurance of their chicken's sex there are several popular breeds whose gender is linked to the color of the feathers, making identification straight forward and positive.

In our area, unwanted hens or the few roosters that sneak through are easily dealt with by posting on our public bulletin board or on Craigslist. Roosters are usually passed on to those who butcher chickens to feed their families. There is no shortage of people who can use a fresh, young meat bird. We've observed this for years among the less fortunate. It has recently broadened to include anyone who wants to feel more connected to their food supply.

I'm pleased to be a resident of Dallas, which earlier this year overwhelmingly approved residents' right to keep up to five hens inside the city. I recently spoke with Commissioner Brian Dalton, who explained that their decision was based upon a *presumption of competence* of those who wish to keep chickens responsibly. If a few residents prove incompetent to do so, the city will deal with resolving those issues at that time. What an inspiring thought, that citizens should be allowed the opportunity to prove they can act responsibly before being treated otherwise.

Seven months into Dallas's new chicken code, I have heard no one crying for its amendment or repeal. Few of us are surprised.

Regards,

Jon Hendersen
President

503-831-1222

Attachment 6

Appendix J

Ted Shepard - Fwd: Urban chickens and property values in Portland

From: "Dan Brown" <fortcollinshens@gmail.com>
To: "Ted Shepard" <tshepard@fcgov.com>
Date: 8/12/2008 4:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: Urban chickens and property values in Portland

Ted,

Here are some comments from Jane Leo at the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors in regard to the impact of urban chickens on property values. Please include this in our documentation.

Regards,

Dan

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jane Leo <JLeo@pmar.org>
Date: Mon, Aug 11, 2008 at 2:36 PM
Subject: RE: Urban chickens and property values in Portland
To: Dan Brown <fortcollinshens@gmail.com>
Cc: Michelle Jacobs <mjacobs@fcbr.org>

Dan--In response to your request for comment regarding the impact of chickens in a residential zone in the City of Portland, I can only iterate comments made during our telephone conversation. Chickens can be found in both older and newer Portland neighborhoods. City code, available at www.portlandonline.com, regulates the distance the livestock area must be from residential units and the gender of the chickens. Roosters are forbidden. During my 14-plus years with the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors, I have not had a conversation with any member in which the discussion centered around chickens negatively impacting the desirability of a neighborhood nor housing values.

Best regards,

Jane Leo
Governmental Affairs Director
Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors
Direct Phone Line: 503/459-2163

From: Dan Brown [mailto:fortcollinshens@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2008 12:55 PM
To: Jane Leo
Subject: Urban chickens and property values in Portland

Jane,

Thank you very much for talking with me about the effects of urban chickens on property values in Portland, OR. There have been some concerns raised about the possible impact on property values of

file://C:\Documents and Settings\tshepard\Local Settings\Temp\GW100001.HTM

8/20/2008

This unofficial copy was downloaded from CityDocs at <http://prometheus.fcgov.com>
For additional information or an official copy, please contact City Clerk's office at (970) 221-6515

Attachment 6

September 14, 2010

To Whom it May Concern:

As a REALTOR®, I'm acutely aware of home and property trends and values. There definitely is a growing awareness nationwide, and within the Salem area, for more green and sustainable options in the way people utilize their resources and property. From my client interactions, it is clear that people want to have greener more sustainable options not only to save energy/money, but to be more self-sufficient, and environmentally responsible. These options not only benefit the people involved directly, but overall influence the community, nation and ultimately the world in positive ways.

Because of this growing need and desire for greener ways of living, and my own personal values in this area, I went through the educational process to secure my Green designation through the National Association of REALTORS®. This has attracted a new client base I am serving, and learning along with. Modes of green and sustainable products and activities are constantly evolving as people seek new ways of living in tune with their values.

As I view homes with my clients, I notice many people taking advantage of their residential lots to do more than grow lawns and flowers. I see many gardens in front yards, pepper plants and tomatoes put between roses and pansies, and lawns replaced with edible landscaping. It is evident that people are using their yards to grow food... This helps them not only save money, but provides many other benefits: connection to their property, their food source and their neighbors.

Many communities around the nation are allowing property owners to take this green, self-sustainable process even further by allowing homeowners to have a few backyard chickens. This is becoming the rule rather than the exception. These communities and their progressive stand on green and sustainable living attract citizens with those values. People with this increased awareness and value system tend to be better educated and have higher incomes. So it is natural to see that property values in these communities tend to be higher.

I work with many people relocating to our area. I get asked many questions about our city and how progressive we are with recycling programs and more. While the city is doing many wonderful things, one thing that is missing is the ability of people to have a few backyard hens like they do in other Oregon communities.

It is my hope, as a REALTOR®, with the Green designation, that I will be able to tell people contemplating coming to our area that Salem is as progressive a place to live as other communities that are nearby. While the word "green" may represent certain trends or fads - it is not a trend or a fad to feed one's family clean, affordable food. As I work with people in real estate, I have learned that having the opportunity to have a few backyard hens is something that home owners in our area would like to explore as a means for living a greener more sustainable life.

Nannette Martin, REALTOR®
ABR®, e-PRO®, GREEN, SFR
Broker Licensed in Oregon
Prudential Real Estate Professionals

Attachment 6

Appendix K

From: **Emilio E DEBESS** (emilio.e.debess@state.or.us)
Sent: Wed 10/28/09 10:36 AM
To: Barbara Palermo (getaholdofbp@hotmail.com)

Hello Barbara,
Thank you for your question and concern.

This genus has one species, influenza A virus. Wild aquatic birds are the **natural hosts** for a large variety of influenza A. Occasionally, viruses are transmitted to other species (jumping species) by mutation.

The statement was made after the reporter asked as to the origin of influenza viruses.
As for the public, significant mutations have to happen **in wild birds** to pass it on to other animals and humans.

People are not at risk of developing influenza by having a domesticated bird at home (not wild).
If a client has a wild bird at home, the chances of a virus mutation and the possibility of jumping species, (given that the bird has influenza) are minimal.

Let me know if that helps so I can send it out to the vet listserv
Thank you

>>> "Barbara Palermo" <getaholdofbp@hotmail.com> 10/28/2009 10:15 AM >>>
Hi Dr. DeBess,

A recent article in the Oregonian newspaper quotes you as saying "Birds are basically the origin of all flu viruses, historically, and they can get any and all flu viruses." Could you please explain what you meant by that. People seem to be worried that your statement means birds present a high public health threat, which I don't think is what you meant. In terms of flu viruses, can you say that people are any more likely to catch the flu from a bird than any other means? Aren't the chances of getting sick from a dog or cat greater than from a bird?

Thank you,
Barbara

Attachment 6

with **The Oregonian**

Ferret gets swine flu from its owner, a first

By Jacques Von Lunen, Special to The Oregonian...
October 20, 2009, 3:47AM

It appears that certain pets can catch swine flu from their owners.

Oregon just registered its first case of a natural human-animal transmission of the H1N1 virus. Actually, it may be the first such recorded case anywhere, said Emilio DeBess, Oregon state public health veterinarian.

A ferret, whose owner had shown flulike symptoms, tested positive for swine flu on Oct. 8.

The owners took the ferret to a veterinary clinic in Portland on Oct. 5 (DeBess said the clinic asked not to be identified.) The animal had severe respiratory illness and showed many of the symptoms people associate with the flu: fever, weakness, coughing and sneezing.

After hearing that the owner suffered from flu symptoms just before the ferret got sick, the treating veterinarian called DeBess, whose responsibilities include serving as a consultant to Oregon vets.

DeBess asked the vet to send in a sample of the ferret's nasal secretions. It was tested at an Oregon State University lab, which found genetic markers for the strain of H1N1 that's infecting humans. A lab of the U.S. Department for Agriculture confirmed the finding on Oct. 9.

This came as little surprise to DeBess. Ferrets, which are sensitive toward respiratory illness, have been used in labs to see how the flu will affect people, he said. But this may be the first case anywhere of a ferret catching the flu from its owner, without the help of lab technicians, he said.

The ferret is recovering.

DeBess put the staff at the clinic on "fever watch" after the test results came in. No one at the clinic had gotten sick as of last week, he said.

Ferret owners need to be careful during flu season. And that goes both ways. If you have a ferret that's sneezing and coughing, wash your hands a lot and definitely take it to a vet. If you are sick with flulike symptoms, handle your ferret sparingly. Don't cough or sneeze near it.

The same is true for birds, DeBess said. Birds are basically the origin of all flu viruses, historically, and they "can get any and all flu viruses," he said. However, no cases of birds contracting H1N1 are documented in this country.

In the past five years the flu virus has mutated into a strain called H3N8, which infects dogs. It's not known to transmit to humans. No known strain infects cats, and neither cats nor dogs can carry H1N1.

Appendix L

Because no one should be hungry.



January 22, 2009

Mayor Janet Taylor and City of Salem Council Members
555 Liberty St. SE, Room 220
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mayor Taylor and City Council Members:

Please accept this letter in support of the citizen based initiative to permit individual households to raise backyard hens within the City of Salem. The group has done an exemplary job of researching the issue and presents a strong and timely proposal for your consideration. We encourage Salem to follow the lead of other innovative communities in Oregon, including Portland, Corvallis, Eugene, Gresham, Beaverton, Hillsboro, and Milwaukie, that have passed ordinances that allow backyard hens within city limits.

Since 1987, Marion-Polk Food Share has been "leading the fight to end hunger" as the nonprofit regional food bank serving Marion and Polk counties. As the regional food bank, we provide centralized food collection and distribution, as well as fundraising and capacity building support, for our 80 member agency network. Last fiscal year, we provided 4.8 million pounds of emergency food and distributed 69,892 food boxes and 989,041 meals.

In Salem the need is especially great. Last year, within the city, we distributed 34,279 food boxes and served over 350,000 meals through 43 member agencies. Approximately 15,000 Salem households, representing 44,000 individuals reached out for emergency food assistance. A total of 3,336 *new households* in Salem received a food box (up 26% from the previous year). This represents the highest number of local residents we have seen coming for help in the 21 years of our existence.

As President of Marion-Polk Food Share, I am aware of the local and nationwide movement in support of backyard hens as a means to increase household self-sufficiency and reduce hunger. Recently we have worked with a dietician to put together a list of the most nutritious "core" food box items. Eggs are on this list for the quality nutrition they provide, especially for children.

At my house in rural Marion County, I raise 6 hens. I know firsthand how simple and clean it can be to raise chickens, and I benefit from having enough eggs for my family, as well as a weekly surplus that I donate to the local food pantry. At the Food Share, we see great hope in educating low-income community members about how to raise a few backyard hens to improve their nutrition and increase self-sufficiency. We envision households with not only enough for themselves, but with the potential to provide many dozen eggs each year to their local food pantry.

On behalf of the Food Share, and those we serve, I encourage you to pass an ordinance to allow backyard hens in Salem. It is another step we can take in our fight to end hunger in our community. If you have any questions, please call me at 503-581-3855, ext. 306 or e-mail rhays@foodbanksalem.org.

Sincerely,

Ron Hays
President

Attachment 6

Tuesday, January 06, 2009

To City of Salem staff and Council members:

I am writing to express my strong support for raising chickens in residential areas within the city limits of Salem. A proposal to change this code is coming before you, and a deliberative and democratic process will determine the outcome of such a change in policy. What I am advocating for, as a garden project manager for Marion Polk Food Share, is to ensure the long-term sustainability of our community through myriad of ways, including community gardening, urban farming, and teaching a future of food growing that includes keeping hens. The cost-benefit of such an endeavor is one that favors the community, the neighborhood, and the home, from the constant supply of high protein food, to the production of appreciable quantities of highly concentrated manure, to the destruction of countless insects and consumption of kitchen and table scraps.

Marion Polk Food Share has a continuing interest in the building of partnerships that lead to the betterment of our community's health, self-reliance and sustainability. I see an opportunity to create neighborhood connections that bring people out of the woodwork, people that are interested in engaging in a process of getting back to the basics. More specifically, I see the development of sustainable models for keeping hens to be included in our growing foundation of food security curriculums, lessons of which will be delivered throughout and within neighborhoods in the coming years. Marion Polk Food Share itself has been considering small-medium and large scale production of eggs, and this change will only increase our capacity to meet our mission, which is to end hunger in Marion and Polk counties.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I will leave you with a quote from, "Five Acres and Independence," by M.G. Kains.

"The best way to be successful with poultry is to start with a few hens, give them good care and comfortable quarters, and—keep both eyes open. By this I mean that one should study the matter in a practical way by familiarizing him/herself with the habits and requirements of his/her fowl..."

Sincerely,



Jordan Blake – Garden Project Manager



Because no one should be hungry.
1660 Salem Industrial Drive NE
Salem, Oregon 97303

Appendix M

Methane

ATTACHMENT 4

From: Lucinda Smith, Senior Environmental Planner, Department of Natural Resources
To: Cameron Gloss
Date: June 6, 2008
Subject: City Council, Meeting of June 3, 2008, Follow-up to Question

I understand that a question was raised at the June 3 City Council meeting about the potential impact of urban hens on air quality, especially greenhouse gas emissions.

The U.S EPA Web site on methane emission sources (<http://www.epa.gov/methane/sources.html>) states that methane emissions from non-ruminant animals is insignificant:

"Livestock enteric fermentation. Among domesticated livestock, ruminant animals (cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, and camels) produce significant amounts of methane as part of their normal digestive processes. In the rumen, or large fore-stomach, of these animals, microbial fermentation converts feed into products that can be digested and utilized by the animal. This microbial fermentation process, referred to as enteric fermentation, produces methane as a by-product, which can be exhaled by the animal. **Methane is also produced in smaller quantities by the digestive processes of other animals, including humans, but emissions from these sources are insignificant."**

The U.S. EPA INVENTORY OF U.S. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND SINKS: 1990-2006 (April 2008; USEPA #430-R-08-005) states that ruminant animals are the major emitter of methane because of their unique digestive systems. Ruminant animals have the largest methane emissions of all animals. The report calculates the methane emissions from beef cattle, dairy cattle, horses, sheep, swine and goats; it does not even consider chickens. (See http://epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/downloads/08_Agriculture.pdf)

Most likely, the impacts of increased urban chickens in Fort Collins would be insignificant on local greenhouse gas emissions, even before considering the net carbon impact which would factor in reduced organic food scrap decomposition and other potential benefits.

Attachment 6



The End!

Attachment 6