



# BACKYARD CHICKENS BACKYARD BEEKEEPING BACKYARD GOATS

AND THE BENEFITS OF HAVING THEM







[www.bit.ly/northernchickens](http://www.bit.ly/northernchickens)

Ecology North has a very informative, easy to read guide on raising chickens in the north. Follow the link to view this guide:

# BACKYARD CHICKENS

## AND THE BENEFITS OF HAVING THEM

As the price of groceries continues to climb, interest in backyard chicken farming is on the rise. Besides growing fruits and vegetables, many people across the country also want to keep animals like chickens in their backyard. And while having a seemingly endless supply of fresh eggs sounds like a great idea, there are many important factors you need to know before setting up a coop and running out to buy a hen.

### BENEFITS OF BACKYARD CHICKENS

**1. Fresh Eggs:** On average, a hen will give an egg a day. If you have three

give an egg a day. If you have three hens, you're looking at about 91 dozen eggs a year.

**2. Organic and Non GMO:** By keeping your own hens, you know exactly what they're eating and can avoid feeding them engineered and antibiotic feed.

**3. Greater Nutrition:** Because the chickens are outside they provide more nutrition in the eggs produced. There is more than seven times the Vitamin A and Beta Carotene (essential for good eyesight) and almost double the Vitamin E in free range eggs. When it comes to the



essential fatty acid Omega 3 (which is necessary for heart health, healthy cholesterol levels and positive mental and behavioral health) the free range variety win again.

**4. Free Fertilizer:** Chicken manure is actually classed as being one of the most desirable manures due to its high nutrient level. Utilizing this is an important part of sustainable and organic agriculture.

**5. Pest Control:** When you get your backyard chickens, you'll have a great excuse to ditch the pesticides and chemical-laden bug killers. Your chickens will do that job for you. They eat pretty much any bug including beetles, slugs, ticks and grasshoppers.

**6. Cut Down on Food Waste:** In addition to some chicken food, they'll eat pretty much most kitchen scraps – fruit and vegetable peelings, bread, cooked beans, cooked rice, oatmeal, pasta... (best to avoid meat and other animal products).

**7. Environmental Waste Reduction:** Reduce the trips to the grocery store to purchase eggs in cartons that pile up in your home.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**You should avoid adding new birds to an established flock. Ideally follow an “all-in/all-out” rule. Bring in new birds after a clean period (at least 1 week), where there are no birds in the coop/pen. Always clean and disinfect the coop or pen prior to introducing new birds.**

### POULTRY CARE TIPS

- Develop a daily routine for feeding and observing your birds. Healthy birds should move out of your way when you enter the pen.
- Watch for aggression among birds. Aggressive birds could be a sign of overcrowding.
- Monitor feed intake and change water daily. Keep feed containers

sealed and clean up spills promptly to minimize rodent activity. Clean litter daily.

- If birds are huddled near a heat source, they need more warmth in their enclosure. If birds are scattered far from the heat source, they may be too hot.
- Keep your flock healthy by identifying signs of sickness in individual birds early.

## IS THERE RISK OF SALMONELLA?

Common sense is key in keeping backyard chickens. Follow these steps in reducing the possible spread of salmonella:

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water immediately after touching live poultry or any items around where birds have been. Adults should help children wash their hands.
- If you can't wash your hands right away, use hand sanitizer until you are able to wash with soap and water.
- Keep coop clean.
- Keep any live poultry away from your face. Don't snuggle or kiss the birds!
- Wear a separate pair of shoes for chicken and coop chores.
- Keep live poultry and poultry equipment outside your home and away from places where people eat or make food.
- Research and educate yourself on the hatchery or farm you purchase poultry. Make sure to always use a reputable supplier that has Biosecurity Measures in place.

## WHAT IS BIOSECURITY?

**Biosecurity means doing what you can to reduce the chance of an infectious disease (bacteria, virus, parasite) being carried onto your property by people, animals, equipment, or vehicles.**







## CARING FOR BACKYARD CHICKENS IN THE WINTER

Before designing and building your coop you need to decide whether you will keep your chickens over the winter or cull them in fall. If you decide to care for them over the winter months here are a few helpful tips to make sure backyard chickens are healthy and happy, despite the colder temperatures outdoors.

**1. Some breeds fare better than others:** Some breeds of chickens are hardier than others, and more adapted to the cold temperatures. A few popular cold hardy chicken breeds are Buckeye, Welsummer, Brahmas, Australorp, etc.

**2. Daylight has an impact:** Chickens tend to lay fewer eggs as the days get shorter. Most hens prefer 13-14 hours of daylight to produce eggs in a regular cycle. As the amount of

daylight drops, so will egg production, in most breeds. Cold-hardy breeds like those mentioned above tend to continue laying well even in the shorter hours of daylight. Other breeds may continue to lay regularly if you add a light to the coop. To assist in egg production use a light (rated for outdoor use) on a timer during the winter months.

**3. Heat in the Coop:** if you want your birds to produce eggs through the winter, keep your coop's temperature within your chicken's comfort zone for best results and happy hens. Suggested temperatures for winter coops is around 0-5 Degrees. In order to keep the coop warm invest in running a heat lamp during the winter months, insulate the coop, and make sure your coop has adequate or proper ventilation. The moisture from respiration and pooping will cause dampness in the coop if not vented.



**4. Water is Critical:** Frozen water can be a potential life-threatening problem for backyard chicken flocks. Ensure they have access to clean, fresh water. A heated dog bowl or waterer will save you from making several trips to the coop with fresh water.

**5. Keep Bedding Clean and Dry**

**6. Give chickens a handful of scratch in the evenings:** The digestion of this will help them to keep warm.

**7. Chickens do not like Snow and Ice:** Most chickens do not like snow and ice. If your chickens have to be in the snow or ice, keep an eye out for frostbite.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Chickens need regular dust baths to control lice. A short container filled with a shovel full of soil from your yard mixed with some wood ash works fine.



### THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE STARTING YOUR OWN BACKYARD CHICKEN COOP

- These chickens will be totally dependent on you for food, shelter and safety. Are you fully committed to caring for them before you take them on?
- Predators are a serious issue for backyard chickens. Can you ensure your chickens are well cared for, and protected from predators ... as well as from the weather?



- Yes, we said keeping hens can be cheap...but it's not free. In initial costs of purchasing the chickens and coop can be expensive. You will also need to factor in the cost of feeding them, caring for them if they get ill, and possibly even paying someone to look after them when you are on holidays. purchase eggs in cartons that pile up in your home.

## **IF YOU WANT HAPPY NEIGHBOURS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO TALK WITH THEM BEFORE YOU PURCHASE THE CHICKENS AND BACKYARD COOP!**

Tips to talking to your neighbours before you commit to backyard chickens:

- Assure them you will not have roosters.
- Warn them of the possible hen noise. Be aware that hens do make noise. It

is only a cackle sound, but when they all cackle at once (usually in the mornings), it is noticeable. Hens only do it for a few minutes at a time. It is not constant or as loud as a rooster!

- Promise to handle any disturbances quickly.
- Share your eggs! Offer your neighbours fresh eggs, especially in peak production months.
- Always follow the Community Government bylaw.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Community Government should advertise a public meeting for residents to have the opportunity to discuss Backyard Chickens and what it means for the community before the bylaw is passed.







# BACKYARD BEEKEEPING

AND THE BENEFITS OF HAVING THEM

## WHAT IS BEEKEEPING?

Beekeeping (apiculture) is the practice of managing honeybee colonies to attain desired objectives. The most common primary objectives for managing colonies are to:

- Maximize honey production
- Provide pollination services for local food crops

## BENEFITS OF BEEKEEPING

**Honey:** The prospect of harvesting honey is certainly a strong attraction for new beekeepers. There's something magical about bottling

your own honey. Beekeepers say that no other honey tastes as good as the honey made by your own bees. Delicious!

**Bees as Pollinators:** Any gardener recognizes the value of pollinating insects. Various insects perform an essential service in the production of seed and fruit. The survival of plants depends on pollination, and the honey bee accounts for 80 percent of all pollination done by insects. Without the honey bee's services, more than a third of the fruits and vegetables that humans consume would be lost.



## **Save the Bees: Being Part of the Bigger Picture**

In many areas, millions of colonies of wild honey bees have been wiped out by urbanization, pesticides, and parasitic mites, devastating the wild honey bee population. Backyard beekeeping has become vital in our efforts to re-establish lost colonies of bees and offset the natural decrease in pollination by wild bees.

## **Improving Your Health: Healthful Remedies and Stress Relief**

Honey, pollen, royal jelly, and propolis have been a part of healthful remedies for centuries. Honey and propolis (a sticky resinous material that bees collect from trees and plants) have significant antibacterial qualities. Pollen is high in high protein and can be used as a homeopathic remedy for seasonal pollen allergies.

Also many beekeepers firmly believe that tending honey bees reduces stress. Working with bees is calming! "There's something about being out there on a lovely warm day, the intense focus of exploring the wonders of the hive, and hearing that gentle hum of contented bees — it instantly puts you at ease...." Backyard Beekeeper

## **Passing your Honey Bee Education and Experience Along to the Community**

As a beekeeper you continually discover new things about nature, bees, and their remarkable social behavior. Just about any school, nature center, garden club, or youth organization loves for you (as a beekeeper) to share your knowledge.

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## **HOW MUCH HONEY CAN A BEEKEEPER EXPECT?**

**The answer to that question varies depending on the weather, rainfall, and location and strength of your colony. But producing 100 pounds or more of surplus honey isn't unusual for a single colony.**



# DID YOU KNOW?

## Honeybees Pollinate Major Food Crops

Of the world's 115 most important food crops, 87 require pollination to produce fruits, nuts and seeds. They account for a third of the \$3 trillion worth of agricultural produce sold each year. These crops provide 35% of the calories we consume yearly and most of the vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. Seven of the nine crops that provide at least half the vitamin C to the human diet depend on insect pollination. They include oranges, cabbages, peppers, tomatoes, melons, tangerines and watermelons. Five major fruit crops (apple, almond, avocado, blueberry and cranberry) are reliant on insect pollination.

### BASIC COLONY EXAMINATION

Beekeepers check their colonies approximately once a week from spring until fall to ensure the colonies have good nutrition, strong health, and enough space. The best time to check the hive is on a warm sunny day with little wind to prevent chilling the brood and to take advantage of having most of the field bees away from the hive. The primary things that a beekeeper is looking for when doing a hive inspection are:

**1.** Are there fresh eggs present? This signifies that a queen is present, even if she is not seen during the inspection.

**2.** Is the brood pattern good? A spotty appearance to the brood pattern may indicate a poorly performing queen or disease issues.

**3.** Does the colony have enough honey and pollen? If there is not enough food stores, and there is little external food present, the colony may need supplemental feeding.

**4.** Are there any signs of disease? If so, appropriate disease treatment protocols may need to be initiated.

**5.** Is there enough space? If the colony is strong and there is an abundant food source, a lack of space will cause the colony to swarm.







## **BEST PRACTICES FOR INDOOR WINTERING OF HONEY BEES IN THE NORTH**

The facility housing the honey bee colonies must have a system for temperature control. The temperature inside the structure housing wintering honey bee colonies should be maintained at approximately 5°C plus or minus 1°C. Below this temperature range, honey bees may consume more of their food reserves and above this range, honey bees may become overly active.

**The indoor storage facility must be adequately ventilated.** Honey bee colonies produce large amounts of moisture, heat and carbon dioxide during respiration. When multiple colonies are wintered indoors, there must be adequate ventilation of the storage facility to remove moisture, heat and carbon dioxide.

**The indoor storage facility must remain as dark as possible.** Honey bees are stimulated by light. Therefore, it is important that light, noise, vibrations and other stimuli are minimized so that the honey bees are not disturbed.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Community Government plans and advertises a public meeting for residents to have the opportunity to discuss Backyard Bees and what it means for the community before the bylaw is passed.





## HOW TO BEE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

- Talk to neighbours before bringing in the hives.
- Educate them about the important role pollinators' play in our food supply.
- Register your bees with Community Government and follow the Backyard Beekeeping Bylaw.
- Ensure that you always provide water for the bees, so they don't go looking for other water sources.
- Have an emergency plan if things go wrong and bees become aggressive.
- Don't do your weekly examination with your beehive when people are nearby.



## HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT ASSIST LOCAL BEE KEEPERS?

Communities Governments can provide a diverse source of forage in community gardens, parks, and outdoor spaces if bee-friendly flowers are grown during the spring and summer seasons. Instead of planting traditional grass mixtures for roadside or like locations, plant bee supportive seed like Red Clover. Red clover does not require mowing! Bee-friendly northern flowers (wild red clover, fireweed and goldenrod) make community public outdoor areas more attractive places in which to live and work. If we make our communities better for bees and pollinators, they are better for us too!





# BACKYARD GOATS

## AND THE BENEFITS OF HAVING THEM

As the price of groceries continues to climb, interest in backyard farming is on the rise. Besides growing fruits and vegetables, many people across the country also want to keep animals like chickens, bees, and goats in their backyard. Though goats are adorable with their inquisitive natures and seemingly innocent faces, don't let those goats fool you...they are work! There are a number of things to consider before you build your goat shed and buy your goats!

### **BENEFITS OF BACKYARD GOAT**

**1. Fresh Milk and Cheese:** Backyard goats can become a good source of

milk for your family. Although, it is important to note that if you want to keep goats for milk, your doe will have to be bred every year. **IMPORTANT:** most communities have a cap on the number of allowable goats per property. Be Responsible!

**2. Personable and Affectionate:**

Goats are naturally curious and become very attached to their owners, making them wonderful companions.

**3. Excellent Weed and Brush Eaters:**

Put the goats in a side yard that has grown weeds 4 feet tall and watch the goats do the work for you.



**4. Produce Terrific Manure for the Garden:** Goat manure can be added to compost piles or used directly as a fertilizer when tilled into the soil.

## HEALTH RISKS

**There are certain health risks in handling goats or anything in the areas they occupy. It is very important to understand that goat's milk must be pasteurized before it is consumed or used for making cheese. Follow these steps to eliminate the risks:**

- Pasteurize all goat's milk.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water immediately after touching the goats or anything in the area where they occupy. Avoid touching your mouth before washing your

hands. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

- Do not let children younger than 5 years of age handle or touch goats without supervision.
- Do not let children younger than 5 years of age handle or touch goats without supervision.

Do not eat in the area that goats occupy.

**Important Fact:** Unpasteurized milk can cause life threatening illnesses. Young children and those with immune impairments are especially at risk.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**On average two goats can provide as much as a half of a gallon of milk per day.**





## CARING FOR BACKYARD GOATS IN THE WINTER

When designing and building your goat shed keep in mind the accessibility and snow removal plan for the winter months. Here are a few helpful tips to make sure backyard goats are healthy and happy, despite the colder temperatures outdoors.

**1. Some breeds fare better than others:** Some breeds of goats are hardier than others, and more adapted to the cold temperatures as they grow a thick wool coat. A few popular winter hardy goat breeds are Angora Goats, Alpines, Nubians etc.

**2. Providing Water:** Make a plan to keep the goats water from freezing during the cold months. Most goats will refuse to break through even a thin amount of ice on the top of the water. A popular watering system is plastic pails that hang with coil heating element in the bottom of the pail. The cord is wound in a spiral of wire to prevent chewing and electrocution. Keep the water source outside of the stalls and allow enough room for the goats put their heads through the fence/rails to get a drink. Check water source often to ensure they are working properly.

**NOTE:** Always use extreme caution when mixing goats and any type of plugs, wires or electricity. Goats love to chew and can be very rambunctious and destructive.

**3. Hay:** Prepare and plan for a source of hay that will last you through the winter. Goats eat more hay in the winter as they do not have access to graze.

**4. Storing Hay:** Hay should be stored in a clean, dry space. Dry, ventilation is also important. DO NOT stack damp hay as it can begin to compost and can heat up, even becoming a fire hazard.

**NOTE:** Do not feed moldy hay to goats.

**5. Heat:** Goats are rather hardy and adaptable when it comes to winter weather. Depending on the insulation in your shed a heat source may be required. Other methods of keeping goats warm are the deep liter method. Layer clean straw on top of the old straw. The straw underneath begins to compost and releases heat that helps to keep barn warm. If using this method it is important to ensure there is proper ventilation in the shed.

**6. Keep Dry:** Having a dry shelter is even more important than a warm shelter. A damp, wet shed can cause the goats to get sick.

**7. Minerals:** Goats need mineral supplements year round, but it is especially important in the winter when the goats aren't eating fresh green pasture.







## **THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE YOU PURCHASE YOUR BACKYARD GOATS AND ENCLOSURE**

- Make sure your Community is “Goat Friendly” and follow the bylaw and regulations for your community.
- Goats can be loud. Be sure to research different goat breeds as some are known to be louder than others. Also, be aware that a Doe in heat can be very loud during this time.
- Goats are herd animals. This means that in order for goats to be happy they need a goat friend. They feel very insecure as a singleton. Most bylaws require that an owner has to have a minimum of 2 goats.
- Goats are hard on fences and they can be escape artists. The enclosure will require strong fencing material and even strong supports for that

material. Many goat owners add a strand of hot wire (electric wire or fence) along the bottom. Young goats can slip through field fencing that is no bigger than 4x4. The general rule of thumb is said to be “if a goat can get its head through it – it can get the rest of the body through it”.

- Goats are Picky Eaters. Goats will not eat hay, oats or feed once they have stepped on it or peed near it. Owners need to be prepared to keep the hay off the ground as long as possible or the feed bill is going to be higher than they may have thought.
- Goats eat every growing thing. Goats will eat every tree, vegetable, herb, and flower in your yard. The good news it does include weeds. If you are a person who enjoys flower beds and gardening, your goats will need its own side yard so that you can have a yard too!



# GOAT FAQs

## WHY DO THE GOATS NEED TO BE DEHORNED?

Goats can be very playful, even rambunctious, especially in a confined backyard setting. They require to be dehorned to protect the goats from getting stuck in fencing and other objects that could potentially cause injury. Goats should be dehorned (disbudded) typically within the first three weeks of birth.

## THE REGULATION REQUIRES THAT MALE GOATS BE NEUTERED, HOW DO I CONTINUE TO BREED TO PRODUCE MILK?

Breeding goats is like breeding dogs. You may have to look to professional goat breeders or other farmers in your area.

## WHY DO MALES NEED TO BE NEUTERED?

Unneutered males emit a very foul odor and it is not suitable for the backyard setting.

## IF YOU WANT HAPPY NEIGHBOURS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO TALK WITH THEM BEFORE YOU PURCHASE THE GOATS AND BACKYARD SHED/ENCLOSURE!

Tips to talking to your neighbours before you commit to backyard goats:

- Warn them of the possible goat noise. Be aware that goats do make noise and some make more than

others. Your neighbours need to be aware.

- Promise to handle any disturbances quickly.
- Share your goat entertainment! Allow neighbours to visit, cuddle, and watch the goat fun.
- Always follow the Community Government bylaw.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Community Government should advertise a public meeting for residents to have the opportunity to discuss Backyard Goats and what it means for the community before the bylaw is passed.





# BYLAWS



## COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT NAME

BYLAW No. \_\_\_\_\_

### A Bylaw to regulate Backyard Chickens

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**WHEREAS** under the provision Section \_\_\_\_\_ of the Community Government Name, Council may, by bylaw regulate, prohibit or impose requirements in relation to animals.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of Community Government Name, in open meeting assembled, **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Community Government Name Backyard Chickens Regulation Bylaw No. \_\_\_\_\_".

#### Definitions

"Hen" means a domesticated female chicken that is at least four months old.

"Hen run" means covered secured enclosure that allows hen's access to outdoors.

"Coop" means a fully enclosed weatherproof building where hens are kept and which the interior of includes nest boxes for egg laying, perches for the hens to sleep on and food and water containers.

"Owner" includes any person who processes, harbours or keeps an animal or hen and, where an owner is a minor, includes the person who is responsible for the custody of the minor.

"At large" means being kept outside the coop or run.

"Biosecurity" means doing what you can to reduce the chance of an infectious disease (bacteria, virus, parasite) being carried onto your property by people, animals, equipment and vehicles.

#### Registration of Hen Coops

A person must not keep hens as a Backyard Hens except in a coop registered at the Community Government Name.



## **Responsibility**

- a) A maximum of # hens are permitted on any residential property. (most bylaws are 6)
- b) The keeping of roosters is prohibited.
- c) A tenant must obtain permission from the property owner to keep hens on the owner's property.
- d) The owner of the hens must reside on the property where the hens are kept.
- e) The owner must advise their neighbours of their intention to obtain a hen coop prior to purchasing the hens and coop.
- f) Hens must be kept in the coops from 9:00PM to 6:00AM.
- g) Hens must be kept in an enclosed hen run when not in their coop.
- h) Maintain each coop in good repair and sanitary condition, and free from vermin and obnoxious smells and substances.
- i) Construct and maintain each coop to prevent any rodent from harbouring underneath or within it, or within its walls, and to prevent entrance by any other animal.
- j) Keep a food container and water container in each coop.
- k) Remove leftover feed, trash, and manure in a timely manner.
- l) Hen coops and hen runs shall be a minimum distance of 3 Metres from all windows and doors of dwellings that are located on an abutting property.
- m) Stored manure shall be kept in an enclosed structure such as a compost bin in accordance with compost regulations in the community.
- n) Manure shall be disposed of in accordance with Community Government or Municipal bylaws. Hen waste must be solid and bagged.
- o) Remove all other manure that is not used for composting and fertilizing.
- p) Follow Biosecurity procedures recommended by the Canadian Food inspection Agency
- q) Not slaughter, or attempt to euthanize, a hen on the property.
- r) Not dispose of a hen except by delivering it to a farm, veterinarian, mobile slaughter unit, or other facility that has the ability to dispose of hens lawfully.

## **Provision of Care**

Provide each hen with food, water, shelter, light, ventilation, veterinary care, and opportunities for essential behaviours such as scratching, dustbathing, and roosting, all sufficient to maintain the hen in good health.

## **Recommendation**

Community Governments advertise a public meeting for residents to have the opportunity to discuss Backyard Chickens and what it means for the community before the bylaw is passed.

## Enforcement

A Public Health Officer, Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Property Use Inspector, Member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or other municipal employee authorized by Council to enforce Community Government bylaws may enter upon any property to inspect and determine whether the requirements of this bylaw are being met. Non-compliance may lead to lack of ability to have a registered chicken coop.

## Offences and Penalties

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this By-law or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of this By-law or who neglects to do or refrains from doing any act or thing required by this By-law shall be guilty of an offence under this By-law and shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty of not less than amount of dollars and not exceeding amount of dollars, together with the costs of conviction.

## Repeal

Bylaw No. \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby repealed.

Read a first time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Read a second time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Read a third time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signed, certified by the senior administrative officer and sealed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

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Mayor

I hereby certify that this bylaw has been made in accordance with the requirements of the *Hamlets Act* and the bylaws of the Municipal Corporation of the Community Government of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

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Senior Administrative Officer

[SEAL]



**COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT NAME**

**BYLAW No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A Bylaw to regulate Backyard Beekeeping**

---

**WHEREAS** under the provision Section \_\_\_\_\_ of the Community Government Name, Council may, by bylaw regulate, prohibit or impose requirements in relation to animals.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of Community Government Name, in open meeting assembled, **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Community Government Name Backyard Beekeeping Regulation Bylaw No. \_\_\_\_\_".

**Definitions**

"Apiary" means a place where bees or beehives or beekeeping equipment is kept for the purpose of Hobby Beekeeping;

"Bee" means the insect *Apis mellifera*;

"Hive" means beehive equipment inhabited by live bees;

"Backyard Beekeeping" use means the keeping, owning, or maintaining of up to number of allowable bee hives on a residential property occupied by the beekeeper or as an educational use in an institutional setting.

**Registration of Apiaries**

A person must not keep bees as a Backyard Beekeeper except in an Apiary registered at the Community Government Name.

## **Responsibility**

- a) Backyard beekeepers shall deter other animals and protect hives from disturbance by animals by a suitable method of prevention, including but not limited to adequate fencing or hedging or motion sensed high-pitched deterrent devices.;
- b) Hives shall be located so that the entrance to the hives face away from adjacent property dwellings.
- c) Every Backyard Beekeeper and every person who allows, permits or establishes the keeping of bees on their property has the duty to maintain, or to take reasonable precautions to prevent swarming or aggressive behaviour by the bees, and if the bees do swarm or show signs of aggressive behaviour, to ensure that the bees are requeened.

## **Provision of Water**

Every Backyard Beekeeper and every person who allows, permits or establishes the keeping of bees shall ensure that the bees have sufficient water available on the property upon which the Apiary is located to provide for the needs of the bees.

## **Recommendation**

Community Governments advertise a public meeting for residents to have the opportunity to discuss Backyard Chickens and what it means for the community before the bylaw is passed.

## **Enforcement**

A Public Health Officer, Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Property Use Inspector, Member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or other municipal employee authorized by Council to enforce Community Government bylaws may enter upon any property to inspect and determine whether the requirements of this bylaw are being met. Non-compliance may lead to lack of ability to have a registered apiary.

## **Offences and Penalties**

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this By-law or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of this By-law or who neglects to do or refrains from doing any act or thing required by this By-law shall be guilty of an offence under this By-law and shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty of not less than amount of dollars and not exceeding amount of dollars, together with the costs of conviction.



**Repeal**

Bylaw No. \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby repealed.

Read a first time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

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Read a third time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signed, certified by the senior administrative officer and sealed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

I hereby certify that this bylaw has been made in accordance with the requirements of the *Hamlets Act* and the bylaws of the Municipal Corporation of the Community Government of \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Senior Administrative Officer

**[SEAL]**

**COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT NAME****BYLAW No. \_\_\_\_\_****A Bylaw to regulate Backyard Goats**

---

**WHEREAS** under the provision Section \_\_\_\_\_ of the Community Government Name, Council may, by bylaw regulate, prohibit or impose requirements in relation to animals.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of Community Government Name, in open meeting assembled, **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Community Government Name Backyard Goats Regulation Bylaw No. \_\_\_\_\_".

**Definitions**

"Goat" means a hardy domesticated ruminant animal that has backward curving horns and (in the male) a beard. It is kept for its milk and meat and is noted for its lively and frisky behavior.

"Goat Shed" means a fully enclosed weatherproof building where goats are kept to protect themselves from the elements with a secure enclosure that allows goats access to outdoors.

"Fence" means a minimum 5-Foot tall secure enclosure from outside of the pen, free of objects that would allow the goat to climb out of the enclosure.

"Owner" includes any person who processes, harbours or keeps an animal, where an owner is a minor, includes the person who is responsible for the custody of the minor.

"Biosecurity" means doing what you can to reduce the chance of an infectious disease (bacteria, virus, parasite) being carried onto your property by people, animals, equipment and vehicles.

**Registration of Goats**

A person must register goats and shed enclosure for Backyard Goats at the Community Government Name.



## Responsibility

- a) A maximum of # goats are permitted on any residential property. (most bylaws are 2)
- b) Required to keep 2 goats, not just one goat.
- c) All goats must be dehorned.
- d) A tenant must obtain permission from the property owner to keep goats on the owner's property.
- e) Males must be neutered.
- f) Two goats must be kept, except that offspring may be kept up to 12 weeks from birth.
- g) The goat shed shall be no less than 10 square feet and designed to be predator proof, vented, waterproof, and easily accessed for cleaning.
- h) The goat shed shall provide direct access to an outdoor enclosure that is a minimum of 400 square feet, surrounded by a 5-foot tall fence that is secured from outside of the pen, free of objects that would allow the goat to climb out of the enclosure.
- i) The enclosure must be easily accessed for cleaning.
- j) The owner of the goats must reside on the property where the goats are kept.
- k) The owner must advise their neighbours of their intention to obtain goats prior to purchasing the goats and shed with enclosure.
- l) Maintain the goat shed and enclosure in good repair and sanitary condition, and free from vermin and obnoxious smells and substances.
- m) Keep a feed and water container in goat shed.
- n) Remove leftover feed, trash, and manure in a timely manner.
- o) Stored manure shall be kept in an enclosed structure such as a compost bin in accordance with compost regulations in the community.
- p) Manure shall be disposed of in accordance with Community Government or Municipal bylaws. Goat waste must be solid and bagged.
- q) Remove all other manure that is not used for composting and fertilizing.
- r) Follow Biosecurity procedures recommended by the Canadian Food inspection Agency
- s) Goat's milk, cheeses and similar food products are for personal consumption only. Sale of these products is prohibited.
- t) Not slaughter, or attempt to euthanize, a goat on the property.
- u) Not dispose of a goat except by delivering it to a farm, veterinarian, mobile slaughter unit, or other facility that has the ability to dispose of goats lawfully.

**Provision of Care**

Provide goats with food, water, shelter, light, ventilation, veterinary care, and opportunities for essential behaviours such as room for grazing grass, butting, and play, all sufficient to maintain the goat in good health.

**Recommendation**

Community Governments should advertise a public meeting for residents to have the opportunity to discuss Backyard Goats and what it means for the community before the bylaw is passed.

**Enforcement**

A Public Health Officer, Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Property Use Inspector, Member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or other municipal employee authorized by Council to enforce Community Government bylaws may enter upon any property to inspect and determine whether the requirements of this bylaw are being met. Non-compliance may lead to lack of ability to have registered goats and shed enclosure.

**Offences and Penalties**

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this By-law or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of this By-law or who neglects to do or refrains from doing any act or thing required by this By-law shall be guilty of an offence under this By-law and shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty of not less than amount of dollars and not exceeding amount of dollars, together with the costs of conviction.



**Repeal**

Bylaw No. \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby repealed.

Read a first time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Read a second time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Read a third time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signed, certified by the senior administrative officer and sealed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

I hereby certify that this bylaw has been made in accordance with the requirements of the *Hamlets Act* and the bylaws of the Municipal Corporation of the Community Government of \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Senior Administrative Officer

**[SEAL]**