

TOWN OF COLONSAY
BYLAW 2026-03
A BYLAW TO ALLOW FOR A PILOT PROGRAM ALLOWING
URBAN HENS

The Council of the Town of Colonsay in the Province of Saskatchewan enact as follows:

1. Short Title

1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as the “Pilot Program - Urban Hen Bylaw”.

2. Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this Bylaw is to outline the Town’s responsibility regarding the licensing, control and regulation of urban hens within the community and implement a Pilot Program to allow for Urban Hens within town limits for a period of two (2) years (April 2026 – April 2028); at which time Council will review the program and this Bylaw. Upon reviewing the Bylaw in April of 2028, Council will make the decision to implement a more permanent Bylaw or repeal this Bylaw.

3. Definitions

3.1 In this Bylaw:

- a. Bylaw Enforcement Officer – The person or persons appointed or contracted by the Town for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Bylaw.
- b. CAO (Chief Administrative Officer) – The person appointed as administrator pursuant to Section 111 of *The Municipalities Act*.
- c. Chicken – A domesticated fowl that is kept for egg or meat production or as a pet, but does not include a turkey, goose, duck, artificially reared grouse, partridge, quail, pheasant, or ptarmigan.
- d. Coop – A structure for the purpose of housing urban hens
- e. Council – The Mayor and Councillors of the Town elected pursuant to the provisions of *The Local Government Election Act, 2015*.
- f. Hen – a domesticated female chicken
- g. Owner – Includes
 - i. A person, persons, partnership, association or corporation who keeps, possesses, harbours, or has care of or control of a dog or cat.
 - ii. The person responsible for the custody of a minor where the minor is the owner of a dog or cat.
- h. Poultry – Domesticated fowl, including but not limited to , ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowl, peafowl, quail, swans, doves, pheasants, grouse, pigeons or partridge, but does not include urban hens.
- i. Urban Hen – a domesticated female chicken, of any age, that is kept for egg production or as a pet but does not include a chicken raised for meat production.
- j. Rooster – A domesticated male chicken.
- k. Structure – Anything erected or constructed for the purpose of housing urban hens, including coops and runs.
- l. Town – The Town of Colonsay

4. Licensing, Permits & Registration of Urban Hens

- 4.1 A person is entitled to keep Urban Hens on their property by first applying to the Town by filling out Form “A” and paying the prescribed application fee as found in Schedule “A”, which forms part of this Bylaw.
- 4.2 The Town may issue a permit or license, with or without conditions, refuse a permit or license and/or revoke a permit or license at any time.
- 4.3 A permit may be revoked if:
 - i. The permittee fails to comply with any conditions upon which the permit was issued or fails to comply with the provisions of this Bylaw.
 - ii. The permit was issued as a result of false, incorrect or misleading information
- 4.4 The following rules and regulations must be adhered to when keeping Urban Hens. The applicant must:
 - a. Urban Hens may only be kept in Residential zoning districts.
 - b. The permittee must reside on the property where the urban hens are being kept.

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- c. Only have up to a maximum of five (5) hens.
 - d. Not have any roosters.
 - e. Provide each hen with at least 0.37 m² (4 ft²) of coop floor area, and at least 0.92 m² (10 ft²) of covered outdoor enclosure.
 - f. Provide and maintain a floor of any combination of vegetated or bare earth in each outdoor enclosure.
 - g. Provide and maintain, in each coop, at least one perch for each hen, that is at least 15 cm (6 in) long, and one nest box.
 - h. Keep each hen enclosed within the yard. If hens are to wander around the yard, the yard shall be fully fenced.
 - i. Adhere to the location and size of coops:
 - i. Coops need to be located at least 3 m (10 ft) from the rear and side lot lines.
 - ii. Coops need to be located at least 3 m (10 ft) from any door or window of a residential building.
 - iii. Coops need to be located in the rear yard of the lot.
 - iv. Coops can be no more than 2 m (6.5 ft) in height.
 - v. Coops cannot occupy an area of land larger than 9.2 m² (99 ft²).
 - j. Provide each hen with food, water, shelter, light, and ventilation, heat in winter months, veterinary care, and opportunities for essential behaviours such as scratching, dust-bathing, and roosting, all sufficient to maintain the hen in good health.
 - k. Maintain each hen enclosure in good repair and sanitary condition, and to the best of a person's ability, free from vermin and obnoxious smells and substances.
 - l. Construct and maintain each hen enclosure to prevent any rodent from harbouring underneath or within it or within its walls, and to prevent entrance by any other animal.
 - m. Keep a hen-friendly food and water container in each coop.
 - n. Keep each coop closed from sunset to sunrise.
 - o. Remove leftover feed, trash, and manure in a timely manner.
 - p. Store manure within a fully enclosed structure, and store no more than three (3) cubic feet of manure at a time.
 - q. Remove all other manure not used for composting or fertilizing.
 - r. Keep hens for personal use only, and not sell eggs, manure, meat or other products derived from hens.
 - s. Not slaughter, or attempt to euthanize, a hen on the property.
 - t. Not dispose of a hen except by delivering it to a farm, abattoir, veterinarian, or other facility that has the ability to dispose of hens lawfully.
 - u. Not keep a hen in a cage.
 - v. Deceased Urban Hens shall not be disposed of, except by delivering it to a farm, abattoir, veterinarian, or other facility that has the ability to dispose of deceased hens, lawfully.
- 4.5 Any person who does not comply with the set-out regulations may have their hens and/or henhouse removed from their property by the Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

5. Penalty

- 5.1 Contravention of this Bylaw, which shall indicate that the municipality will accept a voluntary payment, to be paid in full to the municipality within thirty (30) days.
- 5.2 Every person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and if a voluntary payment is not made, is liable upon summary conviction to the penalties provided in the General Penalty Bylaw of the municipality.

6. Severability

- 6.1 A decision of the court that one or more of the provisions of this Bylaw are invalid in whole or in part does not affect the validity, effectiveness, or enforceability of the other provisions or parts thereof with respect to this Bylaw.

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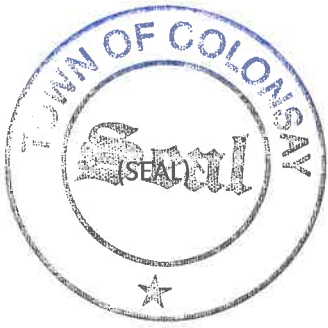
7. Coming Into Force

7.1 This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect on the final date of passing by Council.

Read a first time this 20th day of April 2026

Read a second time this 12th day of May 2026

Read a third time and adopted this 12th day of May 2026





Mayor



CAO

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Schedule "A"

Urban Hen Fees

Section	Description	Fee
4.1	Urban Hen License	\$25.00 one-time fee

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Schedule "B"

Section	Description of Offence	First Offence	Second & Subsequent Offences
	Failure to obtain permit for urban hens	\$150.00	\$300.00
	Keeping more than five (5) urban hens on property	\$150.00	\$300.00
	Keeping a rooster or poultry	\$100.00	\$200.00
	Failure to keep urban hen on the Permitted property	\$75.00	\$150.00
	Failure to keep sanitary coop/run Conditions	\$150.00	\$300.00

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Form "A"

Urban Hen Application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Civic Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Please check off the following:

I would like to keep _____ hens in my backyard (up to five (5)).

Number

I currently own a residential property in the Town of Colonsay.

There is enough space in my backyard to ensure a minimum of 4 ft² for each hen and a minimum of 10 ft² of roofed space to run.

I own or have access to hens and the required equipment including (but not limited to) a weather and predator-proof coop.

I understand that no products from the hens may be sold including (but not limited to) eggs, meat, and fertilizer.

I understand that owners of hens shall adhere to good management and husbandry practices and maintain hens in such a condition so as to prevent distress, disease, and welfare issues.

I understand that to allow my hens out in the yard, the yard must be fully fenced and contained.

I also understand that this is a Pilot Program until January 2028, and I shall not continue to have Urban Hens within Town limits if Council deems this Program is not fit for the Town of Colonsay.

By checking the above boxes, I declare that the information in this application form is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have read and understood the information provided to

me by the Town as laid out in Section 4 of this Bylaw. I understand that false information given may result in the denial of my application for Urban Hens.

Signature: _____ Date: _____