

Date of Submittal: \_\_\_\_\_

**VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS  
APPLICATION FOR A  
Chicken Coops or Apiaries**

**NOTE: This is an ANNUAL application – it must be submitted each year**

**A. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION (Please type or print)**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street

Property Index Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning District: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you own or rent? \_\_\_\_\_  
(If a renter, then the property owner must sign below to indicate their approval of this application.)

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you propose an Apiary \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Coop \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner (if Applicant is a Renter): \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner's Signature (if other than Applicant, required to document authorization for Applicant to submit application):  
\_\_\_\_\_

By signing this application, the Applicant and Property Owner attest that all information contained in this application and all attachments is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

**E. OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED**

Current Plat of Survey or Site Plan clearly depicting conformance with the requirements of Article III-4.C. 1 (Apiary) or Article III-4.C.3 (Chicken Coop).

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of letter showing notice to all adjacent property owners and list of adjacent property owner.  
Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

For Apiary Application – submit proof of completed inspection by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.  
Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

## STANDARDS FOR APIARIES AND CHICKEN COOPS

Applicant(s) must sign below to attest that they have read the standards provided below and agree to comply with these standards at all times. The full text of the Unified Development Ordinance can be found on the Village website – [www.villageofparkforest.com](http://www.villageofparkforest.com).

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Applicant(s) Signature

Article III-4.C. Use Standards for Accessory Structures. The following standards apply to accessory structures designated as permitted (“P”) or permitted with building permit (“B”) in the districts noted in the “Use Standards” column of Table III-4-A. Accessory Structures. (NOTE: Apiaries and Chicken Coops are P-permitted in the zoning districts noted below.)

1. Apiary. Bees may be kept in apiaries in accordance with the following standards.
  - a. Permit and Registration. Prior to erecting an apiary, an applicant must provide written notice to all adjacent property owners and obtain a permit from the Zoning Administrator. Such permits must be renewed annually. Apiaries must be registered with the Illinois Department of Agriculture and inspected as required. Proof of completed inspection shall be submitted to the Zoning Administrator within 30 days of inspection.
  - b. Location.
    - 1) Apiaries are allowed in the rear yard of any single-family use in the R-1, R-2, or R-4 District.
    - 2) Apiaries are allowed in the rear yard of any use in the C-3 or M Districts.
  - c. Setback. Apiaries shall be located a minimum of 10 feet from any lot line and a minimum of 10 feet from the principal structure on the lot.
  - d. Number.
    - 1) A maximum of two hives are allowed per zoning lot in the R-1, R-2, and R-4 Districts.
    - 2) A maximum of six hives are allowed per zoning lot in the C-3 and M Districts.
  - e. Safety. Beekeepers shall re-queen colonies that exhibit unusually aggressive behavior, such as stinging or swarming, and shall ensure that a source of water is accessible on the zoning lot within 50 feet of the apiary.
  - f. Maintenance. Apiaries shall be maintained so as not to become a nuisance. Colonies shall be maintained in movable-frame hives with adequate spacing and management techniques to avoid overcrowding and swarming.
  - g. Screening. Apiaries shall be screened to provide a flyway barrier. Such screening shall be at least six feet tall, and consist of a solid fence, vegetative barrier, or combination thereof. The entrance to the apiary shall include a latched gate that shall remain closed when a beekeeper is not present.
  - h. Sales. There shall be no retail sales of any products on-site.
2. Chicken Coop. Chickens may be kept in chicken coops, chicken runs, and similar structures in accordance with the following standards.
  - a. Permit. Prior to erecting a chicken coop, chicken run, or similar structure, an applicant must obtain a chicken coop permit from the Zoning Administrator and provide notice to all adjacent property owners. Such permits must be renewed annually.
  - b. Height. The maximum height of a chicken coop shall be eight feet.
  - c. Size. The chicken coop and run, combined, must total a minimum of four square feet per hen, with a minimum of one square foot per hen allocated to the coop, and a minimum of three square feet per hen allocated to the run.
  - d. Location.
    1. Chicken coops, chicken runs, and similar structures are allowed in the rear yard of any single-family use in the R-1 or R-2 District.

2. Chicken coops, chicken runs, and similar structures are allowed in the rear yard of any urban agriculture use in the C-3 or M Districts.
- e. Setback. Chicken coops shall be located a minimum of 10 feet from any lot line and a minimum of 10 feet from the principal structure on the lot.
- f. Number – First Year. No more than four hens are permitted per zoning lot during the first application year (12 calendar months). Roosters are not permitted. There is no limit on the number of chicks, age six months or younger, that may be kept.
- g. Number – Subsequent Years. After one year (12 calendar months) of owning four hens, an applicant may submit an application to increase the number of hens to no more than eight hens. The Zoning Administrator shall approve this application if no substantiated complaints have been received by the Village regarding the applicant’s hens in the previous 12-month period.
- h. Perimeter fence. The rear yard of any property where hens are kept must be fenced with a minimum four-foot high fence.
- i. Maintenance. Chicken coops, chicken runs, and similar structures shall be maintained in a manner that provides adequate lighting and ventilation, and protects chickens from cold weather, precipitation, rodents, predators, and trespassers. Chicken coops, chicken runs, and similar structures must be maintained in a sanitary condition and shall be cleaned of droppings, uneaten feed, feathers, and other waste so as not to become a nuisance.
- j. Sales. There shall be no retail sales of any products on-site.
- k. Slaughter. On-site slaughtering of chickens is prohibited.

Submit applications to:

Carrie Malfeo  
Sustainability Office  
226 Forest Boulevard  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
708-503-8153  
cmalfeo@vopf.com

Amended July 14, 2020