

Backyard Hens For Hamilton, Ontario



March 2018

PROPOSAL

- That the City of Hamilton allow residents to have a maximum of 4 hens in their backyard if they have sufficient outdoor space.
- Roosters would still be banned.
- Chickens would not be allowed in apartment buildings, condominiums or properties without sufficient outdoor space.
- Under the system, chickens must remain within a resident's yard and any eggs produced are for personal consumption and can't be sold.

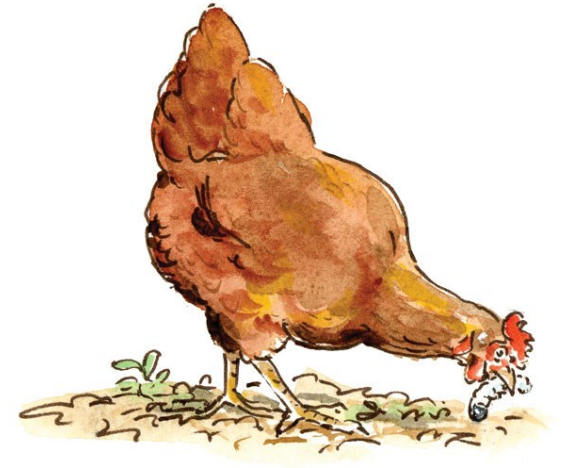
EGGS

- On average, one hen lays one egg per day
- Provide food for low income families
- Teach children where food comes from
- Eggs from hens raised on pasture compared to factory farmed hens contain more of the good stuff and less of the bad stuff
 - 1/4 less saturated fat
 - 2/3 more vitamin A
 - 2 times more omega-3 fatty acids
 - 3 times more vitamin E
 - 7 times more beta carotene
 - 4 times more vitamin D



PEST CONTROL

- Chickens love to eat insects
- Serve as an organic pest-cleanup crew in your garden
- Devour ticks on your property
- Eat many weeds
- When you feed your chickens kitchen scraps they poop out a nitrogen-rich fertilizer which you compost with yard waste, creating invaluable organic soil for your garden



City of Hamilton At Risk Area for Lyme Disease

- The Tick population in Hamilton is exploding
- Ticks = Lyme Disease = Higher Healthcare Costs
- Conservation Hamilton is working with Royal Botanical Gardens to come up with a solution. Chickens eat ticks and are a natural solution.
- A 1991 study showed that chickens who scavenged for 30 minutes among tick-infested cattle in Kenya ate an average of 81 ticks per chicken.



Portable Chicken Coop



KEEP FOOD AND YARD WASTE OUT OF LANDFILLS

- A single chicken can “bio-recycle” about seven pounds of food residuals in a month
- If just 2000 households raise hens, it could divert 252 tons of waste from landfills annually
- In Flanders, Belgium and Paris, France the city actually GIVES laying hens to homes in an effort to reduce landfill costs

CHICKENS MAKE GREAT PETS

- Chickens are like any other pet
- You need to feed and water them daily, collect the eggs and clean the coop
- They are gentle and great with kids
- They provide great company



IT'S BEEN PROVEN SUCCESSFUL

- All of Hamilton's surrounding municipalities allow for backyard hens and they have had great success!!
- Toronto, Guelph, Caledon, Brampton, Kingston, Niagara Falls, Newmarket etc all allow for backyard hens
- Hamilton can easily use these city's regulations as a template

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

