

City	Chickens Allowed?	Max Number	Allow Roosters?	Permit required?	Coop Restrictions?	Contact info	Additional Information	Link
Agawam	Yes	6	no	yes, must fill out application, renew every year with annual inspection	must be completely enclosed pen, must conform to zoning bylaws (section 6.18 and 8.23) Noise and odor must not be perceptible at property line		must clean weekly	<a href="http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/home/showdocument?id=1757">http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/home/showdocument?id=1757</a>
Arlington	Yes	none, extra fee above 50	no	yes, \$20 fee to Board of Health and hospitals (plus \$10 for each additional 50 chickens)				<a href="http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Massachusetts/Boston/cityofbostonmunicipalcode?Template=main--default.htm&amp;3.0&amp;v=amlegal_boston_ma">http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Massachusetts/Boston/cityofbostonmunicipalcode?Template=main--default.htm&amp;3.0&amp;v=amlegal_boston_ma</a>
Ayer	Yes	25		Yes, Department of Public Health	100 feet from residences	978-772-3335/800-427-9762, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health 30 Central Ave Ayer, Ma 01432 Office Hours: REGULAR HOURS: Tuesdays through Thursdays 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM SUMMER HOURS: June 22 2009 - August 28, 2009 Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM		
Belmont	Yes	5 or 6, depending on which part of the permit you're reading	no		40' from neighboring dwelling	John Maguranis, 617-993-2724		
Boston		In parts of Allston and Brighton only, working on adopting Article 89 for other neighborhoods						
Brookline	Yes				100' from neighboring residence, and also property line (?)			
Cambridge		Not mentioned in zoning laws						
Chicopee								
Danvers	No			potential special permit available, contact BOH		<a href="http://milford.ma.us/pages/departments/health-department.php">http://milford.ma.us/pages/departments/health-department.php</a>		
Dedham								
Everett								
Freelton	Yes		no	yes, license to Newton Health Department, must renew every 2 years	Cannot be less than 200 feet from drinking water supply, 10 feet from property line, 50 from other dwellings	Health and Human Services	<a href="http://www.newtonma.gov/civicaux/efebank/documents/45343">http://www.newtonma.gov/civicaux/efebank/documents/45343</a>	<a href="http://www.mahb.org/bohregs/animals3.htm">http://www.mahb.org/bohregs/animals3.htm</a>
Holland								
Holyoke								
Lexington								
Maynard								
Medford								
Milford								
Milton	no laws prohibiting	no max	yes	no	none	Nancy Bersani, ACO: 617.698.0455 Winthrop Board of Health 1 Metcalf Square Winthrop, MA 02152 (617) 846-1740	Nancy loves chickens! And says the only complaints she's had yet involved noisy birds too close to a neighbor's house, and she recommends at least notifying neighbors	
Natick	Yes		No	Yes	Yes		<a href="http://www.municode.com/library/clientCodePage.aspx?clientID=14275">http://www.municode.com/library/clientCodePage.aspx?clientID=14275</a>	
Needham	Yes	24	No	Yes	must be 50 feet from any dwelling; 20 feet from public or private way	Health Services Administrator, (781) 942-9061	<a href="http://www.ci.reading.ma.us/pages/ReadingMA_Health/docs/regs/animals_keeping.pdf">http://www.ci.reading.ma.us/pages/ReadingMA_Health/docs/regs/animals_keeping.pdf</a>	
Newton	Yes		Yes	Yes	yes: proximity, sanitation, noise, zoning restrictions			
Norfolk	Yes		No	Yes	No (none provided)	Public Services - (978) 536-0600		
Northampton	Yes	none	yes	no	yes, but noise is only concern as long as animals are well-cared for	Salem City Hall 93 Washington Street, Salem, MA 01970 Phone: 978-745-9595 City Hall Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 8AM - 4PM Thursday 8AM - 7PM Friday 8AM - 12PM	<a href="http://www.salem.com/Pages/SalemMA_Clerk/ordinances">http://www.salem.com/Pages/SalemMA_Clerk/ordinances</a>	
Northborough	Yes		No	Yes, \$50/year to Health Department. <a href="http://natickma.gov/Public_Documents/NatickMA_Health/LIVESTOCK.pdf">http://natickma.gov/Public_Documents/NatickMA_Health/LIVESTOCK.pdf</a>	50 ft from residence, 15 from property boundary	Town of Natick Health Department 13 East Central Street Natick, MA 01760 (508) 647-6460	<a href="http://natickma.gov/Public_Documents/NatickMA_Health/BOHRegs/ch6.pdf">http://natickma.gov/Public_Documents/NatickMA_Health/BOHRegs/ch6.pdf</a>	
Palmer	Yes	15 (20,000 sqft or smaller, 1 additional animal for each 2,000 sqft beyond initial)	No	Unclear, check with Public Services	15 feet from abutting residential lot line	Public Services - (978) 536-0600	<a href="http://www.danvers.gov/office.com/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&amp;SEC=%7B62762330F2E24E8F9741D050A8B4264E07D&amp;DE=%7B6B84B457-33CD-4D9E-B7A75B9410910C397D">http://www.danvers.gov/office.com/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&amp;SEC=%7B62762330F2E24E8F9741D050A8B4264E07D&amp;DE=%7B6B84B457-33CD-4D9E-B7A75B9410910C397D</a>	
Peabody	No		No				<a href="http://www.townofsharon.net/Public_Documents/SharonMA_WebDocs/ByLaws/zoningByLawsSept2009.pdf">http://www.townofsharon.net/Public_Documents/SharonMA_WebDocs/ByLaws/zoningByLawsSept2009.pdf</a>	
Plymouth	Yes	depends on zone: 24	yes	Yes, Board of Health	Must be more than 50 feet from any dwelling or abutter and more than 20 feet from public and private ways	<a href="http://www.readingma.gov/board-of-health">http://www.readingma.gov/board-of-health</a>		Contact BOH: <a href="http://www.ayer.ma.us/Pages/AyerMA_Bcomm/BoardofHealth/index">http://www.ayer.ma.us/Pages/AyerMA_Bcomm/BoardofHealth/index</a>
Quincy	No, see Article II section 180-17 G in city code							
Reading	Yes	5	No	Yes		Contact the animal control division or public health department and they will inspect the coop for adequate size and placement		
Revere	Yes							
Salem	Yes		Yes	No	15 feet from abutting residence	Town Clerk 3 North Main Street Assonet, MA 02702 (508) 644-2203	<a href="http://hollandma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/HollandMA_WebDocs/bylaws">http://hollandma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/HollandMA_WebDocs/bylaws</a>	
Sharon	Yes	depends on lot size	Yes					
Somerville	Yes	6	yes	Yes, apply through BOH	100 feet from abutting property lines and year round surface water body	Thomas Natoli- Animal Inspector (978)897-1011 (police station, will connect you to him)		
Waltham	Yes	depends on location, at discretion of animal inspector	Yes, but if someone complains about noise you get fined	dependent on approval by animal inspector	dependent on approval by animal inspector		<a href="http://www.backyardchickens.com/almaynard-massachusetts-chicken-ordinance">http://www.backyardchickens.com/almaynard-massachusetts-chicken-ordinance</a> ; <a href="http://www.townofmaynard-ma.gov/safety/animal-control/">http://www.townofmaynard-ma.gov/safety/animal-control/</a>	
Watertown	Yes	6	No	No, but check with Building Commissioner to be sure	The minimum acreage required for keeping poultry shall be 30,000 square feet for up to three animals and 10,000 square feet for each additional such animal. Animals under six months not to be counted for acreage requirements. Coop must be more than 4 feet from prop boundary and 10 from adjacent buildings	Building Commissioner	<a href="http://ecode360.com/11957346?highlight=chickens#11957346">http://ecode360.com/11957346?highlight=chickens#11957346</a>	
Wellesley	no laws prohibiting							<a href="http://www.town.northborough.ma.us/Pages/NorthboroughMA_BOH/index">http://www.town.northborough.ma.us/Pages/NorthboroughMA_BOH/index</a>
Winchester	Yes	none given	maybe, contact health department	No, Right to farm ordinance (page 6301 in bylaws)		Palmer Health Dept. 413-283-2606	<a href="http://www.townofpalmer.com/vertical/sites/%7B034F9CAE-5196-4551-90C2-F8B776374B0B%7D/uploads/CH17_zoning.pdf">http://www.townofpalmer.com/vertical/sites/%7B034F9CAE-5196-4551-90C2-F8B776374B0B%7D/uploads/CH17_zoning.pdf</a>	
Winthrop	No laws prohibiting	none given					<a href="http://www.plymouth-ma.gov/Public_Documents/PlymouthMA_TownClerk/Bylaws/Bylaws%20Town%20General.pdf">http://www.plymouth-ma.gov/Public_Documents/PlymouthMA_TownClerk/Bylaws/Bylaws%20Town%20General.pdf</a>	