

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN**

ORDINANCE NO. 0728-2025

**AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE KEEPING FOWL IN THE VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN,
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

THE VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN ORDAINS:

The Village of Mattawan adopts this Ordinance for the purpose of regulating the keeping of fowl within the Village. The Ordinance and all policies regarding the keeping of fowl within the village are consistent with the Generally Accepted Agriculture and Management Practices (GAAMP) for the care of farm animals as promulgated by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. All persons wishing to keep fowl within the Village shall adhere to the following:

1. The number of fowl allowed is based on zoning districts and as follows:
 - a. HCBD, VGBD, HBD, LID, BPD, R3 and R4 – No Fowl Allowed
 - b. R1 and R2 – 6 chickens only, no other fowl or roosters
 - c. AG – 15 Fowl
2. Structures for keeping chickens must meet the following requirements and property owners must:
 - a. Be located in the backyard of the applicant's property, defined as an imaginary line even with the rear wall of the residential structure extending away from the structure.
 - b. Be located a minimum of ten (10) feet from any property line.
 - c. Fowl should not be allowed in a residence, porch, or attached garage. Fowl must be confined in a house or coop in the backyard of the residence with a minimum of 2 square feet per bird. A fence enclosure that is a minimum of 4 feet in height must be installed that completely encloses the coop and any range yardage. The coop and fence should be built to keep dogs, cats, and wildlife from gaining entry.
3. Provide a container that protects feed from entry by rodents
4. Proper disposal of waste materials is required on a weekly basis.
5. Provide the minimum care of animals by:
 - a. Cleaning the structure in which fowls are kept regularly
 - b. The owner must feed and water the fowl daily.
 - c. Injured or sick animals will be attended to properly
 - d. Dead animals must be disposed of by the Michigan Bodies of Dead Animal Act, Act 239 of 1982, Amended Act No. 311, Public Acts of 2008

Violation and Penalties

Any owner, renter, possessor, or occupier of land within the Village of Mattawan, or any person in charge of such lands, who fails, neglects, or refuses to comply with the provisions outlined in this ordinance for their zoning district shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Such violations shall be deemed a public nuisance. Such individuals shall be subject to a penalty of a 90-day Misdemeanor, which prescribes a fine of up to \$500 and 90 days in jail. Furthermore, each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

Variance Requests

Should any resident want to apply for a variance from any portion of this ordinance, a special variance request application can be submitted for \$50 or other amount determined by Village Council action. This variance request is reviewed by the Zoning Administrator and approval or denial will be given in writing to the requestor.

Validity and Severability

Should any portion of this Ordinance be found invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Repealer Clause

Any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective upon publication. Any owner, possessor, or occupier of land that is not in compliance at the time the ordinance becomes effective shall have 30 days after the ordinance becomes effective to become compliant with the provisions of this ordinance.

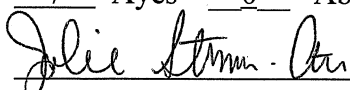
CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I, Jolie Storm-Artis, Clerk of the Village of Mattawan, certify that at a regular meeting of the Village Council held on July 28, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., at the Mattawan Village Hall, at which the following members were present:

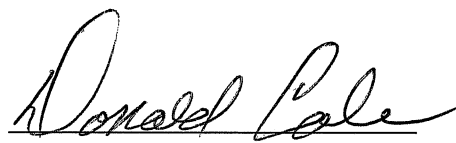
Begeman, Cole, Daniel, Gurley, McLean, Streeter, and Stuut

The Council, motioned by Daniel and supported by Stuut, enacted Ordinance #0728-2025 to become effective July 28, 2025, and to be published pursuant to the provisions of the Village Charter.

7 Ayes 0 Abstentions 0 Nays


Jolie Storm-Artis, Village Clerk

July 28, 2025


Donald Cole, Council President