



Backyard Hens In Smithers

Resources

For the full list of Town Regulations refer to [5 Steps to Backyard Hen Keeping](#)

Are there resources for people who have never kept Chickens?

There are many local, provincial and internet resources for new chicken keepers in Smithers. Some of these resources are listed below, more links can be found on the Town's Web Page:

Smithers Farmers Institute:

<http://www.smithersfarmersinstitute.com/small-flock-poultry-health.html>

BC Ministry of Agriculture poultry facts sheets and publication list:

<http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/poultry/factsheets.htm>

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Government of Canada:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/animae.shtml>

A blog that offers information and discussion on hens and gardens:

<http://www.betterhensandgardens.com/2010/02/07/new-chicken-nesting-box>

Web site on sustainable agriculture with information on the author's experience:

<http://www.suburbanchicken.org/index.html>

Chicken basics dedicated to the pet chicken owner.:

<http://www.chickencrossing.org/coopis.html>

Chicken newsletter and blog:

<http://successwithpoultry.blogspot.com/2007/06/chicken-coop-photos.html>

Web forum to talk about chickens

<http://www.backyardchickens.com>

Online magazine

<http://www.backyardpoultrymag.com>

Site that gives general information on "starting out" and provides a forum

<http://poultryone.com/>

Backyard Hens In Smithers Cont...



Who would a Smithers resident contact if they have a complaint about a neighbour keeping chickens?

The first step in any complaint would be to check the Smithers Animal Control and Licencing Bylaw to understand if the owner of the hens is actually operating against the bylaw. If the hen owner is working contrary to the bylaw it is always best to contact the owner to make them aware of the infraction as they may wish to be a good neighbour and change the situation to abide by the bylaw. If there is still a problem you may contact Smithers Bylaw Enforcement to report an infraction to the Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

How will hens be protected from inhumane acts?

Humane care of animals is the responsibility of the owners. Owners should educate themselves on the proper and humane care for all animals. The BC Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act ensures the humane treatment of animals by providing a legislative mandate for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in British Columbia. It outlines the powers of their offices, rights of seizure and disposal or sale of animals taken into custody. Reporting of inhumane acts against animals is the responsibility of each of us in our society.

- <http://www.sPCA.bc.ca/cruelty/>
- http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96372_01

How will public health be protected in connection with health risks from chickens?

The following Federal and Provincial Legislation provide standards and guidelines related to health and safety. These acts give Senior, Regional, or Local Government authorities the tools to gather information, inspect, and require mitigation.

- [Federal Government - Health of Animals Act - 1990, c. 21](#)
- [Canadian Food Inspection Agency](#)
- [The BC Government](#)
- [BC Provincial Public Health Act](#)
- [BC Provincial Animal Health Regulations](#)
- [BC Integrated Pest Management Act](#)
- [BC Environmental Management Act](#)
- [BC Waste Management Act](#)