Planning Dept Email <planning@rochesterhills.org>

Article 4, Section 138-4.430

1 message

Mary Beth Johnson <marybeth.johnson7@gmail.com> Mon, Oct 19, 2026 at 1:57 PM
To: planning@rochesterhills.org

Subject: Support for Proposed Amendments to the Rochester Hills Chicken and Livestock Ordinance

Dear Members of the Rochester Hills Planning Commission,

I am writing in support of the proposed amendments to Article 4, Section 138-4.430, regarding the raising and keeping of chickens and livestock in Rochester Hills.

I believe residents who own more than one acre of land should have the opportunity to keep a reasonable number of chickens and other permitted animals, provided they do so responsibly and maintain their properties in a manner that respects their neighbors.

Keeping chickens offers meaningful benefits, including access to fresh eggs, opportunities for sustainable living, reduced household food waste, and a greater connection to nature. For residents with larger properties, allowing an appropriate number of chickens is a practical use of their land and a rewarding aspect of homeownership.

A property of more than one acre provides considerably more space to accommodate chickens than a typical suburban lot. With proper care, suitable enclosures, appropriate sanitation, and responsible management, chickens can be kept in a way that minimizes potential impacts on neighboring properties. Regulations should focus on responsible animal care and the prevention of genuine nuisances rather than imposing unnecessarily restrictive limits that do not adequately account for property size.

I support the proposed changes because they recognize that residential properties are not all the same. A one-acre or larger property has different capabilities and considerations than a smaller lot, and the ordinance should reflect those differences. Residents who have the land, resources, and commitment to care for their animals responsibly should have reasonable flexibility in how they use their property.

I encourage the Planning Commission to approve amendments that allow a greater number of chickens and livestock on residential parcels larger than one acre while maintaining reasonable safeguards for animal welfare, sanitation, and neighborhood compatibility.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal and for your work to ensure that Rochester Hills ordinances fairly balance the interests of residents, responsible property

ownership, and the character of our community.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Johnson

2576 Norton Lawn
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48307

(810) 223-8776

Planning Dept Email <planning@rochesterhills.org>

Chicken and Livestock Ordinance

1 message

Clarkstonarea farmersmarket <clarkstonareafarmersmarket@gmail.com> Sat, Oct 17, 2026 at 4:36 PM

To: planning@rochesterhills.org

Kit Duffield has been doing the Clarkston Area Farmers Market, located at 6558 Waldon Road in Clarkston Michigan from 2023-2026, the market is open on Saturdays from the second week in June until the second week in October.

Sylvia Ritchie
Market Manager
Clarkston Area Farmers Market.