

**AMHERST INSPECTION SERVICES**  
4 BOLTWOOD AVENUE • AMHERST • MA • 01002  
Office (413) 259-3030 Fax (413) 259-2402  
[www.amherstma.gov](http://www.amherstma.gov)

**Urban Livestock/ Poultry Registration**  
**Amherst By-Laws, Section 8**

Prior to acquiring livestock or poultry, the property owner shall register with the Amherst Health Department an application describing fully and accurately ty involved. (See full By-Laws posted on Town of Amherst Website)  
Fee- One time Registration fee \$10.00.

**Applicant Name (Please Print)** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(We must be able to contact the livestock owner or his/her representative in case of emergency)*

**Property Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

If your property is zoned \_\_\_(R-O) or \_\_\_(R-LD)

To register Livestock and/or Poultry  
--COMPLETE SECTION ONE

If your property is zoned \_\_\_(R-G) or \_\_\_(R-VC) or \_\_\_(R-N)

To register no more than a total of twelve (12) adult animals, in any combination of  
Only these types: hens, ducks, pigeons, doves and/or domesticated rabbits/hares  
--- COMPLETE SECTION ONE

To register animals *other than* the above listed fowl and/or rabbits/hares  
Or to register *more than* (12) adult animals  
--- COMPLETE SECTION TWO

**SECTION ONE:**

**Obtain a Certified Abutter's List from Assessor**

Assessor's Office  
Town Hall, First Floor  
4 Boltwood Avenue  
(413) 259-3024

**Submit documents and fee to Health Inspector:**

- Management Plan
- Abutter Notification Letter and Sketch
- Certified Abutters' List
- Fee- \$ 10.00

**SECTION TWO:**

**Contact the Permit Administrator**

Permit Administrator  
Amherst Inspection Services  
Town Hall, Second Floor  
4 Boltwood Avenue  
(413) 259-3194

**Follow instruction from the  
Permit Administrator  
to obtain a Special Permit**

**Livestock and Poultry Management Plan**  
Please refer to the Amherst By-Laws, Section 8 in completing your plan.

**1. ENCLOSURE, SHELTER AND OPEN YARD**

a. Enclosures and Shelters: Check All That Apply:

- Chicken Coop
- Rabbit Hutch
- Shed
- Other shelter (describe) \_\_\_\_\_
- Fencing
- Other enclosure (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

b. Open Yard: Calculate a minimum of 10 square feet per adult animal of open yard.

Number of each adult animal type:

\_\_\_ Hens \_\_\_ Ducks \_\_\_ Pigeons \_\_\_ Doves \_\_\_ Domesticated Rabbits \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of adult animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Total square feet of open yard provided: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. FEED:** Describe how feed will be stored:

- Inside an accessory building, in a secure, rodent and predator proof container with tight fitting lid that will not attract pests
- Inside my house in in a secure, rodent and predator proof container with tight fitting lid that will not attract pests
- Other, or additional comments  
(Describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**3. WASTE:** Describe location and disposal of waste in a manner that will not attract pests or promote disease:

- Waste will be stored in a covered container and removed from the property:

Waste will be removed by licensed waste hauler: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequently of removal: \_\_\_\_\_

- Waste will be composted on site:

Location of composting bin: \_\_\_\_\_ Size of bin: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how compost will be maintained (aerated, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Make a hand drawn sketch of your property that includes the open yard, all enclosures and shelters, exterior locations of animal waste storage, composting, and feed.**

#### **4. ODORS AND NOISE:**

**I will not allow the animals to be a nuisance to any neighbors including but not limited to:**

- noxious odors from domesticated fowl and rabbits, their waste, compost, or other related substances shall not be perceptible beyond my property boundaries.
- Noise from the animals, of a loud and persistent and habitual nature, shall not be perceptible beyond the property boundaries.

#### **STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT**

I have been provided a copy of the Amherst By-Laws, Section 8.

I agree to permit annual inspections and such other inspections of the premises as may be required by the Animal Welfare Officer under the provisions of MGL Ch.129, Section 7.

I agree to keep and raise livestock and poultry in a safe and humane manner, consistent with best agricultural practices and as required under all applicable state and local regulations.

I understand that violations of the By-laws may be reported to the Amherst Health Director.

**Applicant's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABUTTER NOTIFICATION LETTER**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date Stamp provided by Inspection Services)

Name of Abutter  
Address of Abutter  
Amherst, MA

**RE: Notification of Intention to Keep Livestock/Poultry**

Dear Property Owner:

As an abutter to the property that you own, I, \_\_\_\_\_  
am sending you notification that I have registered with Amherst Inspection Services an application  
to keep livestock and/or poultry.

I have enclosed a copy of my management plan which includes:

- the type and number of animals I will keep and raise,
- a sketch of animal enclosures and shelters;
- description of removing or composting animal waste.

As an abutter, you have the right to file with the Health Director written comments in support of or objecting to  
the application within 14 business days of the stamped date on this letter.

Comment letters should be mailed directly to:

Amherst Inspection Services  
4 Boltwood Avenue  
Amherst, MA 01002.

Thank you,

_____	Signature
_____	Name
_____	Address
_____	Phone