

Keeping of Poultry

Poultry can be a great asset to any household, providing eggs, eating kitchen scraps, and teaching our children about food origins. But there are a few things you need to know when keeping Poultry within the Shire of Capel.

Do I need Approval?

You **do not** need approval to keep up to **20** poultry. However, you **do** need approval to keep Roosters, or any other large or male member of the Poultry genus. Roosters crowing is the one of the main complaints that the shire receives. For more information see the [Shire of Capel Health Local Laws](#)



What are the Requirements?

In order to keep poultry, you will need to meet certain conditions:

- **Nuisance:** ensure your poultry do not impact your neighbour's amenity in terms of noise, odour, cleanliness, and pest control.
- **Setbacks:** You need to have sufficient area to keep your poultry in your yard. They need to be a minimum of 15m away from any dwelling, public building, place of employment, or where food is stored, prepared, manufactured, or sold.
- **Enclosure:** all poultry are to be kept in a properly constructed and securely fastened enclosure that is able to be maintained in a clean condition at all times.

[For a full list of the keeping of Poultry conditions, see the Health Local Laws \(Part5, div4\).](#)

Complaints

The Shire encourages you to discuss concerns with the neighbour in the first instance. If this fails, contact the Environmental Health Department on 08 9727 0222 to discuss.

Non-compliance

If the Shire receives a written complaint, the shire will investigate and assess if a nuisance occurs. If nuisance is found, the owner may be directed to take action to remove the nuisance such as cleaning or removals of the birds. If the nuisance continues, remedial or enforcement action will be undertaken.