City of Milwaukee

IMPORTANT NOTICE: A $25 FILING FEE MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPEAL, WITHIN THE DEADLINE REFERENCED BY THE BILL.

Checks should be made payable to: City of Milwaukee and a copy of the bill should be included with your appeal

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR CUSTOMERS PAYING BY CHECK

When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account, or to process the payment as a check transaction.

IF THE CHARGES HAVE ALREADY APPEARED ON YOUR TAX BILL, THIS APPEAL CANNOT BE FILED

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

This Board may only determine if the City Department followed proper administrative procedures. It cannot hear appeals as to whether a Building Order is valid or not (those must be appealed to the Standards and Appeals Commission).

TO: Administrative Review Board of Appeals
City Hall, Rm. 205
200 E. Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 286-2231

DATE: 12/20/25

RE: 2912 N. Prospect Ave MKE 53211
(Address of property in question)

Under ch. 68, Wis. Stats., s. 320-11 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, this is a written petition for appeal and hearing.

I am appealing the administrative procedure followed by Neighborhood Services
(Name of City Department)

Amount of the charges $ 25.00

Charge relative to: Appealing chicken permit denial

I feel the City's procedure was improper due to the following reasons and I have attached any supporting evidence, including city employee's names/dates which I spoke to regarding this issue and copies of any city orders received:

See separate sheets

Signature

Catherine Beck
Name (please print)

2912 N. Prospect Ave
Mailing address and zip code

847-212-3457
Daytime phone numbers

cmbeck2@gmail.com
E-Mail Address(s)

The city enforcement for chicken permitting is at odds with the person responsible for managing the Milwaukee's rat infestation issues that were exacerbated in the early summer by the city's construction on Lake Drive. Insufficient mitigation and prevention led to entire neighborhoods being over run by rats, and made the responsibility of property owners. Lori Gallup is quoted in the article saying of rats: "They're everywhere." Ms. Gallup herself is responsible for controlling rat populations and the lack of success seems to be contributing to efforts to discourage chicken keeping. I had my flock a full year before I saw a rat in my yard, meaning the chickens did not cause the rat problems, nor did they draw them to the area.

The city allows the keeping of chickens with a permit. I have applied more times than I can count. I first applied for the permit when my chicks had not yet started laying, and was initially told I was permitted to have three. This didn't align with the research I had done around coops, runs and the sizes required per chickens, but nevertheless, we expanded the run. A landlord that owns the properties next door, who does not live on the property or in the neighborhood has taken issue with my flock. As mentioned he is not a resident and the neighboring households have written emails in support of my flock.

At a neighborhood hearing for the chickens we were told not to build new hen house and to simply reapply. The city fails to provide helpful guidelines for chicken keeping and the best run and coop on the market are not rat proof. We took the time to build our own run after doing the necessary research and went ahead and built it for the safety and well being of the flock, and to reduce any attraction the rats have to our area. In the meantime, I was forced to feed the chickens outside of the run to avoid any unnecessary contact between the rats and chickens. During that time the chickens were often free range.
I had attempted many mitigation efforts including "rat proof" chicken feeders, without success.
These are issues primarily caused by the city's neighborhood services. We have responded to the best of our ability and as quickly as possible.

We did have one hen too many on and off as re homing efforts were less than successful. This has been addressed.

We are and have been meeting and exceeding the city's requirements for chicken keeping.

Gmail nikolai mikkelsen <nikolai.s.mikkelsen@gmail.com>

Fwd: In Defense of Chickens

3 messages

catie beck <cmbeck2@gmail.com> Mon, Jul 28, 2025 at 6:35 PM
To: nikolai mikkelsen <nikolai.s.mikkelsen@gmail.com>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Maddie Strunsee** <madelynestrunsee@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 28, 2025 at 5:53 PM
Subject: In Defense of Chickens
To: <Cmbeck2@gmail.com>

It has been brought to my attention that the sweet chickens next door are at risk of being removed from their home. The chickens are of no bother to me, if anything, they are a joy to have next door. They're quiet, unobtrusive, and sweet. I would like to see them stay!

Thank you,

Madelyne Strunsee

Feel free to take anything out of that, lol. I really would like to see them stay and I enjoy watching them peck around when I drink my coffee in the kitchen. Hope that's not weird 😂

Stylist | Consultant | Curator
www.madelyneroses.com

---

catie beck <cmbeck2@gmail.com> Mon, Oct 13, 2025 at 2:54 PM
To: nikolai mikkelsen <nikolai.s.mikkelsen@gmail.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

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catie beck <cmbeck2@gmail.com> Mon, Dec 22, 2025 at 3:47 PM
To: nikolai mikkelsen <nikolai.s.mikkelsen@gmail.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

Gmail **nikolai mikkelsen <nikolai.s.mikkelsen@gmail.com>**

Fwd: Hens

catie beck <cmbeck2@gmail.com> Mon, Jul 28, 2025 at 10:39 PM
To: nikolai mikkelsen <nikolai.s.mikkelsen@gmail.com>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Bridget Martin** <bridgethackbart@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 28, 2025 at 10:36 PM
Subject: Hens
To: <cmbeck2@gmail.com>

To whom it may concern:

My husband and I live at 2916 N. Prospect Avenue, directly next door to Catie Beck and her small flock of hens. The hens are of no bother to us. They are so quiet, and with the privacy fence between us, we barely notice they are there outside of the occasional cluck. We are in full support of Catie keeping the hens on her property.

Sincerely,

Bridget Hackbart

milwaukee journal sentinel

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

'They're everywhere': Who to call in Milwaukee about rats, and answers to other questions about rodent control

Gina Lee Castro
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Sept. 30, 2024, 5:04 a.m. CT

Rats are likely Milwaukeeans least favorite neighbor. It's tricky to know exactly how many rats are scurrying around Milwaukee, said Lorie Gallup, residential code enforcement manager for the Department of Neighborhood Services.

"They're everywhere," Gallup said.

For every single rat you see, there are likely 10 other rats nearby, exterminators say. There's plenty Milwaukeeans can learn to help keep rats out of their home and neighborhood. The Journal Sentinel spoke with Brittni Vermiglio-Kaplanek, the director of Wisconsin Humane Society, and Gallup to answer common questions about rats.

Who can I call about a rat infestation in Milwaukee?

The Department of Neighborhood Services responds to only complaints about rat burrows at residential properties. Renters and owners can contact the city for assistance with rat burrows. The department uses poison to kill rats in their burrows, Gallup said. But it treats only rat burrows that are at least 10 feet away from structure, and the property can't have any pets. If you're a renter with a rat infestation in your rental unit, you can contact the Department of Neighborhood Services if your landlord isn't addressing the issue.

Gallup recommends hiring a professional to handle your mice and rat problems rather than purchasing rodenticide from the store and applying it yourself.

Is rat poison, rodenticide, harmful to wildlife?

It can be. Rodenticides, or what some people call rat poison or rat bait, are chemicals used to kill rodents. Every year, the Wisconsin Humane Society treats wildlife it suspects were poisoned from rodenticide, Vermiglio-Kaplanek said. When a rat or mouse consumes poison, it doesn't die immediately. Predators, like foxes, bald eagles and coyotes, can be poisoned from eating that mouse or rat, Vermiglio-Kaplanek said.

Releasing carbon monoxide directly into the burrows is one way around potentially harming wildlife. It would kill the rats quickly, but it's pricey, Gallup said.

Do bird feeders attract rats?

It depends. If the bird food regularly spills onto the ground underneath the bird feeder, you could be inviting rats to a free buffet. Rats can climb, too. It's a good idea to keep the bird feeder off of fences and use smaller bird feeders because they're harder for rats to climb and stand on.

Are rats a health hazard to humans?

Yes. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, rodents carry diseases that can spread directly or indirectly to humans. Rodents can also damage property, such as by chewing through wires, which could be a fire hazard.

Are rats important to the ecosystem?

Rats can serve a purpose in the environment. They are a food source for some predators, but on the flipside, rats can damage important habitats, crops and native plants, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

How can I keep rats out of my neighborhood?

The first step is to stop feeding them, Gallup said. Make sure to dispose of any food, feces and garbage outside, and keep garbage bins closed. Rats drink water, too, so remove any stagnate water and water bowls, too.

Do rats eat dog feces?

Absolutely. And the smell of your pet's feces attracts them, too. Feces isn't rats preferred food, but the undigested food is intriguing enough for them. Gallup advises cleaning up after your pet immediately.

What is a rat burrow?

A rat burrow is a hole in the ground where rats hibernate, store food and rest outdoors. The burrow connects to tunnels near the rat's food source and can have multiple exists. It can be hard to tell the difference between a rat burrow and another animal's burrow, Gallup said. Typically, a rat burrow has a 2-to-4-inch hole and a mound of dirt at the entrance, Gallup said.

How can I humanely remove rats?

Vermiglio-Kaplanek says rodenticide causes a painful death. There are a couple of things you can do to humanely remove rats from your yard and home. For your yard, remove any potential food and water sources for rats. Inside the home, she recommends using a trap with food to capture rats and mice in your home, then filling the holes they came from and releasing them outside.

3:48 5G

RUN-CHICKEN

EASY TIMER SETUP

Effortlessly schedule feed times to suit your flock's needs using the simple timer setup feature, ensuring consistent feeding routines.

PEST-PROOF DESIGN

The F80 is meticulously engineered to be pest-proof, keeping unwanted visitors away from your chickens' food supply.

GENEROUS FEED CAPACITY

With a large 19.8 lbs (9 kg) feed capacity, the F80

FREE SHIPPING ON ORDERS **OVER $120**

ample food, reducing the need for

run-chicken.com

Residential Section - Animals

Chicken Keeping Application and Site Plan

City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services

For Office Use Only

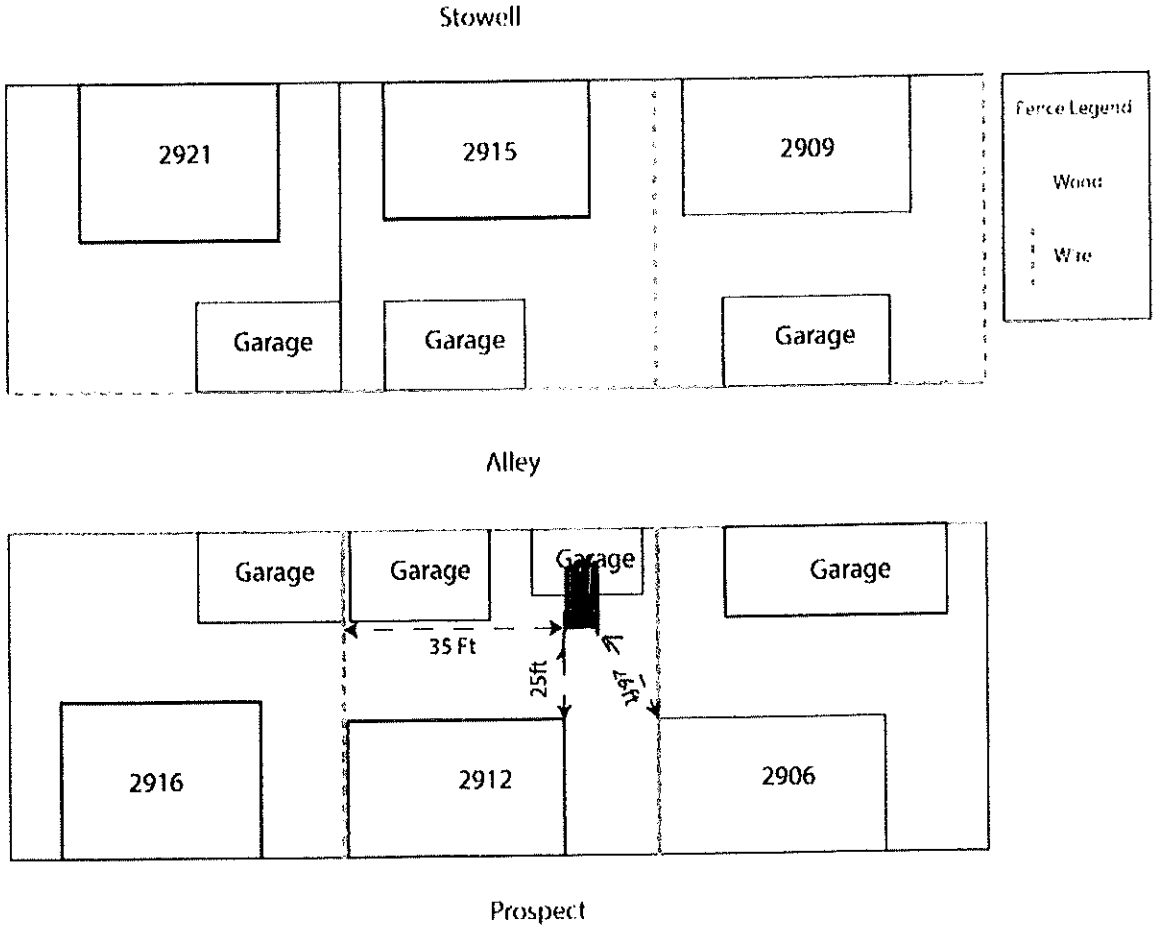
Name (print) Nikolai Mikkelsen Phone 262 - 745 - 1399

Address 2912 N Prospect Ave, Number of hens 4

Zip Code 53211 E-mail nikolai.s.mikkelsen@gmail.com

1. Total square feet of coop and enclosure: 60 (Sqft.) Square feet of coop alone (<50) 10.5
2. Distance of enclosure to nearest habitable structure on adjoining properties (>25 feet) 25

Use the area below to sketch chicken keeping site. Include distances from lot lines, structures (garage, shed), fences/ barriers, pools,etc. Identify neighbors whose property lines connect to your property including diagonals as well as any neighbor across the alley, but not across the street. (See www.milwaukee.gov/chicken for additional information and requirements.)



Issue Date Clerk Permit Number Permit Fee $

DNS-362 Coop Plan V5 TNW 160801

City of Milwaukee

Department of Neighborhood Services

Jezamil Arroyo-Vega
Commissioner

Michael Mazmanian
Deputy Commissioner

November 20, 2025

CATIE BECK
2912 N PROSPECT AV
MILWAUKEE, WI 53211

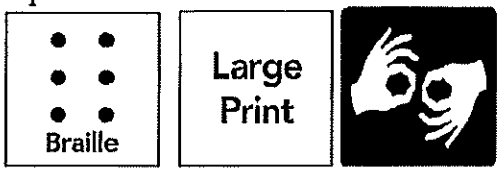
On October 14, 2025, a hearing was held regarding the chicken keeping permit application proposed for 2912 N. Prospect Av. Based on the evidence and testimony, a decision was made to deny the permit.

If you wish to formally appeal this decision, you must file an appeal within 30 days of the date of this letter. It must be filed with the: Administrative Review and Appeals Board, Office of the City Clerk, Room 205 City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI, 53202, 414-286-2221. Please contact them to obtain the proper application form. There is a $25 fee required when filing this appeal.

Sincerely,

Lorie Gallup
Residential Code Enforcement Manager

This material is available in alternative formats for individuals with disabilities upon request. Please contact ADA Coordinator, ADACoordinator@milwaukee.gov, 414-286-3475, TTY: 711. Provide a 72 hour advance notice, seven days for Braille, to ensure accommodation of request.



City of Milwaukee

Department of Neighborhood Services

Jezamil Arroyo-Vega
Commissioner

Michael Mazmanian
Deputy Commissioner

November 20, 2025

NIKOLAI MIKKELSEN
2912 N PROSPECT AV
MILWAUKEE, WI 53211

On October 14, 2025, a hearing was held regarding the chicken keeping permit application proposed for 2912 N. Prospect Av. Based on the evidence and testimony, a decision was made to deny the permit.

If you wish to formally appeal this decision, you must file an appeal within 30 days of the date of this letter. It must be filed with the: Administrative Review and Appeals Board, Office of the City Clerk, Room 205 City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI, 53202, 414-286-2221. Please contact them to obtain the proper application form. There is a $25 fee required when filing this appeal.

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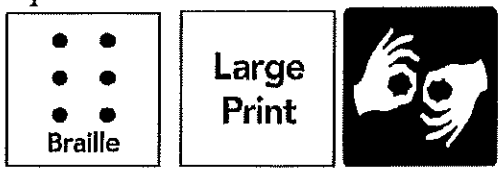

City of Milwaukee

Department of Neighborhood Services

Jezamil Arroyo-Vega
Commissioner

Michael Mazmanian
Deputy Commissioner

November 20, 2025

BENJAMIN PRINSEN
825 N JEFFERSON
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202

On October 14, 2025, a hearing was held regarding the chicken keeping permit application proposed for 2912 N. Prospect Av. Based on the evidence and testimony, a decision was made to deny the permit.

If you wish to formally appeal this decision, you must file an appeal within 30 days of the date of this letter. It must be filed with the: Administrative Review and Appeals Board, Office of the City Clerk, Room 205 City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI, 53202, 414-286-2221. Please contact them to obtain the proper application form. There is a $25 fee required when filing this appeal.

Sincerely,

Lorie Gallup
Residential Code Enforcement Manager

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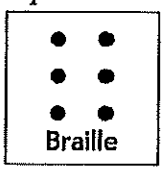

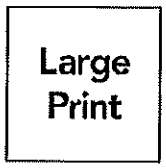

City of Milwaukee

Department of Neighborhood Services

Jezamil Arroyo-Vega
Commissioner

Michael Mazmanian
Deputy Commissioner

November 20, 2025

BRYAN NYE
7800 M REGENT RD
MILWAUKEE, WI 53218

On October 14, 2025 a hearing was held regarding the chicken keeping permit application proposed for 2912 N. Prospect. Based on the evidence and testimony, a decision was made to deny the permit.

If you wish to formally appeal this decision, you must file an appeal within 30 days of the date of this letter. It must be filed with the: Administrative Review and Appeals Board, Office of the City Clerk, Room 205 City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI, 53202, 414-286-2221. Please contact them to obtain the proper application form. There is a $25 fee required when filing this appeal.

Sincerely,

Lorie Gallup
Residential Code Enforcement Manager

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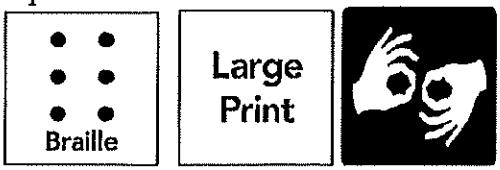

Receipt of ARBA Fee

Date:	12/23/25
Received Of:	Catherine Beck
Property at:	2912 N. Prospect Ave.
Received By:	LME
Check # (If Applicable):	Cash
Amount:	$25.00