

Fact Sheet 5

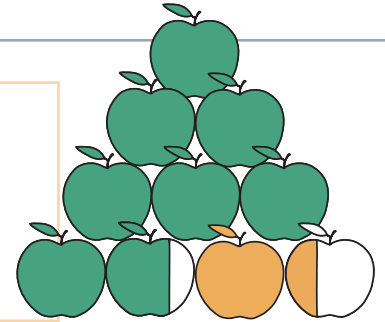
Agriculture

The information on this Fact Sheet comes from the Background Report and the What We Heard Report. To view these documents, [please click here](#).

Community Input

76% of respondents either agree or strongly agree that urban agriculture should be permitted in Mahone Bay.

14% of respondents either disagree or strongly disagree that urban agriculture should be permitted in Mahone Bay.



What is Being Proposed

The Town of Mahone Bay draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw aim to enhance the **availability of small, local scale urban agriculture**. Urban agriculture can play a role in healthy living and **access to food**. Locally produced goods represent an economic development opportunity.

The drafts seek to establish appropriate requirements to limit the impact of urban agriculture on neighbouring properties while protecting the health and well-being of any livestock.

Commercial Livestock

The proposed drafts would prohibit commercial livestock operations in the Town of Mahone Bay.

Permitted Uses

The intention of the Plan draft would be to permit agriculture uses at a **hobbyist or subsistence scale**, including **community gardens**, small-scale **bee keeping**, small-scale keeping of **chickens** and/or **meat rabbits**, but would not allow the keeping of any other livestock.

The sale of urban agricultural products grown or produced on-site, is proposed to be permitted.

Requirements

Individuals and properties who want to keep bees, chickens, or meat rabbits would need to meet **specific Bylaw requirements** (see next page) to ensure that urban agriculture remains limited in scope, and that impacts on neighbouring properties are mitigated.

The documents are now going through the formal adoption process. **A Public Hearing will be held on December 5, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Mahone Bay Legion**, located at 21 Pond Street, to receive written and verbal submissions from the public on the proposed Bylaw and Strategy.

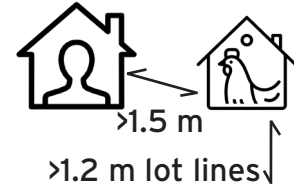
Any questions or written submissions should be directed to Kelly Munroe, Town Clerk, by email: clerk@townofmahonebay.ca or by calling (902) 624-8327.

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Structures

It is proposed that structures, such as greenhouses, sales stands, chicken coops, rabbit huts, would not exceed 6 metres in height, and would need to meet other setback requirements from buildings and lot lines.



Bees

The keeping of bees would be permitted provided that all beehives are located at least 3 metres from any lot line and in the rear yard or a side yard that is not a flankage yard.

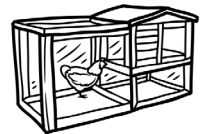


What is Being Proposed

The keeping of chickens would be permitted only where there is a main dwelling on the lot.

Chickens would be limited to **laying hens (no roosters)**.

Chickens would be kept in an accessory structure subject to appropriate setbacks, and would not be permitted to run at large.



Rabbits

The keeping of meat rabbits would be permitted only where there is a main dwelling on the lot.

Rabbits would be kept in an accessory structure subject to appropriate setbacks, and would not be permitted to run at large.

Quantity

The Bylaw draft proposes that a property would not be permitted to exceed a combined total of six chickens and meat rabbits.



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