Does the City of Marion allow chickens or ducks?
The city allows residents to have hens or ducks per Chapter 55A of the Marion Municipal Code.

Do I need a permit?
A permit is required to keep hens or ducks. A permit application can be obtained from the City’s website, www.cityofmarion.org, or from the Planning and Development Department.

Before submitting an Urban Chicken or Duck application, the applicant is REQUIRED to complete an urban chicken training workshop.

Where are urban chicken training workshops offered?
Below are the approved workshops:
- Indian Creek Nature Center
  6665 Otis Road SE, Cedar Rapids, IA
  Phone: (319) 362-0664

- The Sustainable Couple:
  www.thesustainablecouple.com/p/events.html
How many chickens or ducks are allowed?
A maximum number of six (6) hens or ducks are allowed per parcel of land; however, the square footage requirement of the enclosure must be met.

Each chicken or duck must have a leg band with the provided permit number.

Chicken and ducks must have their wings appropriately clipped to prevent them from flying.

Enclosure Requirements
The following list of enclosure requirements is NOT a comprehensive list. Refer to Chapter 55A of the Marion Municipal Code for a comprehensive list.

- A minimum of four (4) square feet per bird is required.

- An enclosure and pen shall only be located in the rear or side yard as defined by Section 176.07 of the Marion Municipal Code. At no time are enclosures allowed in the front or corner side yard of a parcel.

- The enclosure, including pen shall be a minimum distance of ten (10) feet from a property line and twenty-five (25) feet from an adjacent residential dwelling, place of worship, school, or place of business.
Do I need any permits for the enclosure?

If the enclosure will have a square footage amount greater than 120 square feet a building permit is required.

If you plan on having electricity ran to the enclosure an electrical permit is required.

It is NOT permitted to run an extension cord from a primary or accessory structure to the enclosure.

Building and electrical permits may be obtained from the Building Department located at 1225 6th Avenue, Suite 220 Phone: (319) 743-6330

What does the site plan need to include?

A standard site plan includes the following:

- An outline of the property with dimensions
- All structures located on the property
- The desired location of the proposed enclosure and pen with dimensions
- Distances from the enclose and pen to structures on the property and to adjacent property lines
What is not permitted?
The following list is not a comprehensive list.

- Chickens and ducks are not to be kept inside of a single-family or multi-family dwelling unit.

- Butchering and slaughtering is not allowed within city limits.

- Roosters are not allowed per Chapter 55A of the Marion Municipal Code.

- Chicken and ducks are not allowed to be kept on a vacant or uninhabited parcel of land.

If you are planning to sell any of your chickens/ducks and/or any eggs you may be subject to Chapter 176.49, Urban Agriculture of the Marion Municipal Code.
Call Before You Dig!
Iowa One-Call 1-800-292-8989

Marion Planning & Development
1225 6th Avenue, Suite 210
Marion, Iowa 52302
Phone: (319) 743 6320