



Fences

Overview

- KNOW WHERE YOUR PROPERTY LINES ARE! Lots come in varying shapes and sizes.
- The front of a lot is defined as the side with the least width abutting a street, as depicted below.
- Height limits:
 - Side and Rear yards: Up to seven (7) foot allowed without a building permit, up to eight (8) foot allowed with a building permit.
 - Front yard: Up to 42 inch allowed.
 - Corner lots: When the building front is oriented toward the side yard, fences over 42 inches may not encroach onto the front or side yard, as depicted below.
- A fence over seven feet requires a building permit and must be engineered to withstand a 90 mph wind gust for three (3) seconds. It is required that the plans and building permit application be signed by a professional engineer that is licensed with the state of Minnesota to certify that the fence design satisfies this standard.
- Fences are not allowed in the “sight triangle” on corner lots.
- Fences must be at least 5% open for passage of air, light, and drainage.
- All posts or similar supporting instruments used in the construction of fences must face inward toward the property being fenced, unless symmetrical.
- No fence may interfere with drainage in the area.
- If a storm drainage easement exists, you must contact Public Works to determine the bottom height of the fence.
- Any fence erected in a utility easement is placed at landowner’s risk.
- No fences are allowed on the public boulevard.
- Wood fences must be stained, sealed, painted, or otherwise treated with a decay-resistant material.
- Maintenance of the fence and around below the fence is required, including weed removal.
- Barbed wire and electric fencing is prohibited.
- It is recommended that fences be placed two (2) feet inside property lot lines for ease of maintenance (with a gate).

