



CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

Building Permit Guide for: FENCE

Checklist for Permit Application Submittal:

- Completed Residential Building Permit Application
- Copy of the homeowner's most recent PLAT OF SURVEY showing:
 - A drawn line showing where the fence(s) will be installed
 - The height(s) of the fence(s)
 - The fencing style, e.g., picket, shadowbox, split rail, chain link, etc.

Fence Requirements:

1. Only decorative fences that are fifty (50) percent open are allowed in the FRONT YARD. Chain-link fences are prohibited. A decorative fence is a fence made of wood, iron or other similar material, excluding fences made of wire mesh and wire fabric (such as chain-link). It shall not exceed more than four feet (4') in height and it is essentially for decorative purposes only and whose sole intention is not to be used as an enclosure, barrier or means of protection or confinement.
2. All framing on a fence shall face the interior of the lot on which the fence is erected (the finished side faces out).
3. No permanent fence or retaining wall shall be erected within any public street or alley right-of-way. Fences erected on public easements or across ditches shall be so constructed that drainage shall not be obstructed. If a fence located in an easement must be removed for maintenance or other work in the easement, the removal of the fence, and any replacement, shall be the sole responsibility of the property owner.
4. Privacy fences immediately adjacent to patios or first floor decks shall be permitted to a height of six feet (6') as measured from the top of the patio or deck. A privacy fence immediately adjacent to a deck other than a first floor deck shall be permitted to a height of five feet (5') as measured from the top of the deck. Said privacy fences shall not exceed ten linear feet (10') and shall not require a permit.
5. Fences on corner lots shall not exceed three feet (3') in height within the visibility triangle. See attached illustration.
6. Prior to the installation of the fence, it shall be the sole responsibility of the property owner to determine the location of the property lines to ensure that the entire fence is located completely within the boundaries of the permitted property.
7. Fences shall maintain a three (3) foot clearance from all sides of a utility pedestal and/or transformer and a six (6) foot clearance from the access door of a transformer.

Fence Requirements—Residential

