



Village of Richmond

Building Department

REQUIREMENTS FOR FENCES

What is required to obtain a building permit for a fence at my home?

- Completed permit application including the estimated cost of construction.
- Two copies of your Plat of Survey indicating the size and location of the fence marked with a highlighter pen.
- Copy of estimate or proposal
- All Contractors must be registered with the Village.

Fence Definitions:

- *Decorative Fence*: A fence having a regular pattern that has more than thirty percent (30%) of the surface open and unobstructed to vision, light and air, when viewed perpendicular to the plane of the fence and intended primarily for aesthetic purposes.
- *Natural Fence*: A living barrier that is made of natural growth, such as shrubs, hedges, evergreens and similar planted vegetation
- *Solid Fence*: A fence having a regular pattern that has less than thirty percent (30%) of the surface open and unobstructed to vision, light and air, when viewed perpendicular to the plane of the fence and intended primarily for privacy or security purposes.

Fence Categories:

TYPE A: A Type A fence may only be a decorative, natural or solid fence and shall not exceed 4ft in height above the ground level in all zoning.

TYPE B: A Type B fence may be a wall, decorative, natural or solid fence.

Where can each type of fence be located?

TYPE A: Fences not to exceed 4ft may be located in the front, corner side yard, rear yard and side yard in all zoning districts.

TYPE B: Fences not to exceed 6ft may be located in the rear yard in residential zoning. Fences not to exceed 10ft may be located in the rear yard in all zoning EXCEPT for residential.

Additional Notes:

- Fences shall be constructed of an approved material, some recommendations include: **wrought iron, wrought aluminum, painted PVC, wood, cast iron and, split rail.**
- Chain link fences and walls, except terraces, knee-walls and retaining walls, shall be prohibited in a front yard.
- Individual subdivision covenants may have special requirements and should be checked prior to applying for a permit or signing any contracts.

Are there any types of fencing that are prohibited?

Several types of fencing material are prohibited for residential use. These include:

1. Chain Link fences with barbed ends up or privacy insert strips (privacy strips may be used in non-residential zoning districts provided they are of the same color).
2. Barbed wire
3. Electrified
4. Snow Fence
5. Chicken Wire/Farmer's Fence
6. Masonry Structures

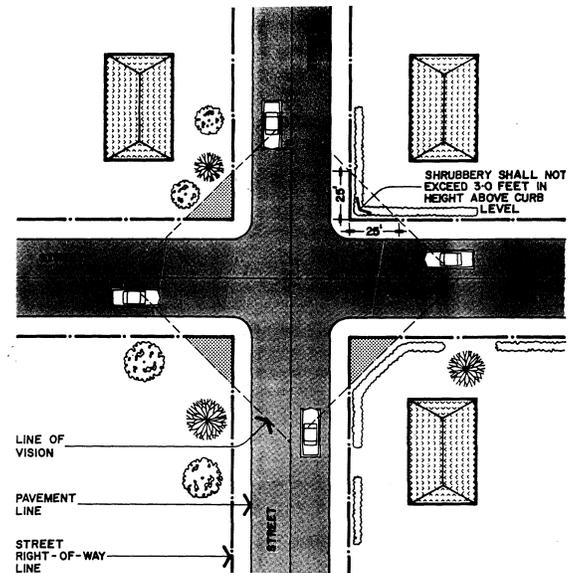
Can my fence be built, so the bottom is in contact with the ground?

- Fences built in the side yard swale shall not be closer than three (3) inches from finished grade. If a drainage easement is located on your plat of survey, the bottom of the fence shall be no closer than four (4) inches from finished grade. All other fences shall be a minimum of two (2) inches from finished grade.

What are the general requirements for all approved fences?

- Signs placed on fences or posts advertising fence contractors or companies shall be prohibited.
- Post Holes must be measured at a depth of 42"

No fence or any other obstruction including trees, bushes, and shrubs shall be planted or constructed so as to obstruct sight or vision lines of passing motorists or to in any way cause a dangerous or hazardous traffic condition (see vision clearance diagram).



**A 24-HOUR NOTICE IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO
SCHEDULING A POST-HOLE INSPECTION WITH THE VILLAGE OF RICHMOND
815-678-4040**

Call JULIE before you dig! In Illinois, safe digging starts when you call JULIE at 8-1-1. This is a free service to have your underground utility lines marked.

