

Section 3.08 Fences. (As Amended Through March 23, 2016)

1. Residential Fences. Residential fences are permitted or required, subject to the following:
 - a. Fences on all lots of record in all residential districts, which enclose property and/or are within a side or rear yard, shall not exceed six (6) feet in height. This height shall be measured from the average established grade to the highest point of the fence. No fence, wall, or hedge shall rise over four (4) feet in height in front of the house or in the required minimum front yard, whichever is greater; the measuring technique employed shall be the same as stated above. In addition, no fence, wall, or hedge shall be located within a public right-of-way, occupy a clear vision zone established by Section 3.04, or interfere with visibility from a driveway. The Zoning Administrator is hereby empowered to cause all such obstructions to be removed in the interest of public safety.
 - b. No obscuring fence or wall shall be located within the front yard. Decorative fencing which does not materially impede vision shall be permitted in a front yard provided it does not exceed a height of four (4) feet. Non-obscuring decorative fencing does not include chain-link fencing.
 - c. Fences shall consist of at least one side that is of "finished" quality. The term "finished" refers to the covering of raw material so as to protect it from the natural elements; this includes but is not limited to the painting of metal, and the painting or staining of wood. A finished side of the fence shall be exposed to all adjacent properties. The finished side shall generally be the side without post exposure or with the least post exposure. The Building Inspector shall determine the "finished" side.
 - d. Fences not used for farm operations shall not contain barbed wire, electric current, or charge of electricity. All fences shall be constructed of treated wood, plastic, aluminum, or galvanized metal or similar materials as approved by the Building Inspector and/or Zoning Administrator. Temporary fencing, such as chicken wire or plastic snow fencing, shall be prohibited as permanent fencing material.
 - e. All fences shall comply with the requirements of the all applicable building and zoning codes.
2. Nonresidential Fences
 - a. Fences located in other than residential districts or on the boundary between such districts shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height, measured from the surface of the ground.
 - b. Fences, which enclose public or institutional parks, playgrounds, or public landscaped areas, situated within an area developed with recorded lots, shall not obstruct vision to an extent greater than twenty-five (25) percent of their total area.
 - c. No fence, wall, or hedge shall be located within a public right-of-way, occupy a clear vision zone established by Section 3.04, or interfere with visibility from a driveway. The Zoning Administrator is hereby empowered to cause all such obstructions to be removed in the interest of public safety.
 - d. Fences located within twenty-five (25) feet of an intersection shall not exceed thirty (30) inches in height.
 - e. Fences shall not contain barbed wire, electric current, or charge of electricity. In the case where the security of industrial and commercial property is concerned, the Planning Commission may approve a fence eight (8) feet in height with barbed wire attached to the top of such fence as part of the site plan review process.
 - f. All fences shall comply with the requirements of the Building Code.