



City of Oconomowoc
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Building Inspection | 262.490.8200
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Fence Regulations

§17.214(1)-(5) of the City Zoning Ordinance

Applicability: All fences, landscape walls, and decorative posts which are equal to or exceed 30 inches in height, located in any district, are subject to the requirements below and shall obtain a building permit from the Building Inspector before starting construction of the fence.

Building Permit: A building permit application for a fence shall consist of a standard building permit application with a site plan drawn to scale. The site plan must show abutting streets, lot lines and their dimensions, existing buildings and their dimensions, the proposed fence location and proposed setbacks. A drawing or picture of the fence indicating its style and height shall also be provided.

Fence Types:

- **Residential Districts:** Acceptable materials for constructing fencing and walls include wood, stone, brick, wrought iron, chain link, wire mesh, and any other materials determined to be similar by the Zoning Administrator. Wire mesh fencing is not permitted within required front yard or street yard areas. Any fence within a street yard, including along property lines which intersect a right-of-way, shall be a maximum of 50% opaque.
- **Nonresidential Districts:** Acceptable materials for constructing fencing or walls include wood, stone, brick, wrought iron, chain link, and wire mesh. Barbed wire fencing is permitted on security fencing at heights equal to or greater than seven and one-half feet (90"). Any fence within a street yard, including along property lines which intersect a right-of-way, shall require review by the Zoning Administrator to ensure consistency with the character of the development and surrounding neighborhood.
- **Temporary Fencing:** Temporary fencing, including the use of wood or plastic snow fences for the purposes of limiting snow drifting between November 1 to April 1, protection of excavation and construction sites, and the protection of plants during grading and construction is permitted for up to 180 consecutive days and no more than 180 consecutive days.

Location: On all properties, no fence or wall shall be located closer than one (1) foot to the front yard or street yard property line. Fences shall be located no closer than one (1) inch from any property line abutting a side or rear yard. Fences shall not be located in drainage or utility easements unless approved by the City. Fences planned near the shorelines of any body of water, shall meet the minimum setbacks from the ordinary high water mark.

Height: The maximum height of any fence or wall shall be the following:

- Four (4) feet when located within a required front or street yard.
- Six (6) feet when located on any residentially zoned property, but not within a required front or street yard.
- Eight (8) feet when located on any non-residential zoned property, but not within a required front or street yard, except security and screening fences may exceed this height if approved by the Zoning Administrator.

Orientation: Any and all fences or walls between different land uses shall be erected so to locate visible supports and other structural components towards the most intensive land use as determined by the Zoning Administrator. In the case of two similar uses, the good side of the fence shall face the neighboring property.

Maintenance: Any and all fences or walls shall be maintained in a structurally sound and attractive manner.