

## Fence Guide

### PERMIT(S) FOR FENCES

**\*\*\*\*\* ALL FEES DUE AT TIME OF APPLICATION. \*\*\*\*\***

- Fence Permit Application.** Complete application *with valid email address*. Be aware of any subdivision restrictions prior to application. Can be secured by homeowner or fence contractor. Approved permit will be emailed to applicant.
- Plans.** Submit one (1) complete set of plans. Indicate the following:
  - Where fence will be located on property;
  - Distance of fence from house and/or sidewalk;
  - Height of fence; and
  - All posts, cross members & screws/hardware for privacy fences must face inward.

**\*\*\*\*\* START WORK ONLY AFTER PERMIT IS APPROVED \*\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*\* BARBED WIRE OR OTHER POINTED TOPS/SPIKES OF ANY KIND ARE PROHIBITED. NO FENCE MAY BE CHARGED OR CONNECTED WITH AN ELECTRICAL CURRENT. \*\*\*\*\***

### INSPECTIONS – SCHEDULE AT [WWW.STERLING-HEIGHTS.NET](http://WWW.STERLING-HEIGHTS.NET)

- Final Inspection.** Schedule when installation is complete.

### FENCE PERMIT DENIED? – APPEAL PROCESS

Denial can be appealed to the Ordinance Board of Appeals. Contact 586.446.2371 for more information. A successful appeal demonstrates to the Board that all four of the following conditions exist:

- 1) There are extraordinary circumstances or conditions applicable to the property involved that do not apply generally to other properties in the city.
- 2) The variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a substantial property right possessed by other properties in the vicinity.
- 3) The granting of such variance or modification will not be detrimental to the public welfare or materially injurious to the property or improvements in the vicinity of the property.
- 4) The granting of the variance will not adversely affect the purposes or objectives of any master plan of the city.

## FENCE REQUIREMENTS

### TYPES OF FENCES:

Sight Obscuring (Privacy Fence). Not less than three (3) feet or more than six (6) feet in height. A fence that provides a visual barrier to persons outside the perimeter.

Non-Sight Obscuring. Not less than three (3) feet or more than six (6) feet in height. A fence that persons on the outside of the fence can see thru. This includes fences constructed with a minimum of 3" gap between vertical members.

### CORNER LOTS:

#### Sight Obscuring Fences

A sight-obscuring fence may be erected upon any side or rear lot line provided that such fence does not encroach into the required front yard. In addition, the fence may not project more than ten (10) feet into the required front yard which would be a side yard if it were an interior lot. Adequate access for firefighting must be provided.

#### Non-Sight Obscuring Fences

All properties located on a corner with roadway on two sides is considered to have two front yards. A non-sight-obscuring fences may be erected upon any side or rear lot line, and along any front building line provided such fence does not encroach into the required front yard. Adequate access for firefighting must be provided.

Non-sight-obscuring fences of not less than three (3) feet or more than four (4) feet in height may be erected in the required front yard which would be a side yard if it were an interior lot.

### INTERIOR LOTS:

#### Sight Obscuring Fences or Non-Sight Obscuring Fences

A fence may be erected upon any side or rear lot line, and along the front yard setback line provided such fence is not less than three (3) nor more than six (6) feet above grade level at any location. Adequate access for firefighting must be provided.

Fences are not permitted to extend into the front yard.