



# City of WOODSTOCK

Building & Zoning Department  
121 W. Calhoun Street  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098

phone 815.338.4305  
fax 815.334-2267  
b&zdept@woodstockil.gov  
[www.woodstockil.gov](http://www.woodstockil.gov)

## RESIDENTIAL FENCE REQUIREMENTS

A building permit is required for all fences. Fences must meet the requirements of the Woodstock City Code and the Woodstock Unified Development Ordinance (Section 7B.3.6).

Individual subdivision covenants may have special requirements or restrictions for fences in addition to those adopted by the City of Woodstock.

### **PERMIT APPLICATION**

The permit process begins with the submittal of a completed permit application, including the cost of construction and the following:

A copy of a plat of survey or other plot plan drawn to scale and indicating the location of the fence, the type of fence, and the location of any easements or structures on the property.

A permit fee of \$20.00 is required and payable at the time of permit issuance.

### **FENCE LOCATION**

All fences must be placed within the owner's property boundary. The Building & Zoning Department strongly suggests that the fence be placed at least six inches (6") within the property line.

A fence may be placed within a utility easement at the property owner's risk. If within a drainage easement, fences cannot impede drainage flow. If a fence must be removed in order to access utilities for any reason, work crews are responsible for replacing it.

### **PERMITTED FENCE HEIGHT**

Fences constructed in a rear or side yard may be up to a maximum of six feet (6') in height.

Any fence placed in a required front yard or side yard abutting a street, or between the front of a structure and the abutting street right-of-way, shall be at least fifty percent (50%) open, i.e., no more than fifty percent (50%) visually obscured.

No fence in excess of four feet (4') in height shall be installed in a required front yard or side yard abutting a street unless the principal structure encroaches into said front yard or side yard abutting a street, in which case such fence may be as close to the front or side lot line as the encroaching structure.

Fences installed in a rear yard abutting a street or public right-of-way shall comply with the standards and specifications for a fence erected in a required front yard. A fence up to six feet (6') in height may be approved by the Building & Zoning Director if said fence is set back a distance of ten feet (10') from the abutting street or public right-of-way and is otherwise in compliance with these regulations.

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- No fence may be constructed in any public right-of-way.
- No fence shall be constructed of barbed wire, razor wire, spikes or other pointed or injurious materials.
- No fence shall be electrified.
- The finished side of a fence shall face outward.
- The City of Woodstock will not get involved with disputes regarding the location of property lines or maintenance of fences. Such disputes are considered entirely as civil matters.

### **INSPECTIONS**

One inspection is required after the fence has been installed and is completed. Inspections should be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance by calling the Building & Zoning Department at 815-338-4305. The following information is required: address of inspection, type of inspection, and preferred date and time of inspection.

***CONTACT J.U.L.I.E AT 8-1-1 48 HOURS BEFORE  
DIGGING EXCEPT ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS***



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## ADDITIONAL FENCE REQUIREMENTS

PERMIT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Issuance of this fence permit is subject to compliance with the following requirements:

- All fences must be placed inside the owner's property line. The Building & Zoning Department strongly suggests that the fence be placed at least six inches (6") within the property line.
- Fences may be placed in utility easements at the homeowner's risk. If the fence must be removed to access utilities for any reason, work crews are not responsible for replacement.
- Fences may be placed in drainage easements at the homeowner's risk. If within a drainage easement, fences must not impede drainage.
- All fences erected in a required front yard or side yard abutting a street, or between the front of a structure and the abutting street right-of-way, shall be at least 50 percent open, i.e., no more than 50 percent visually obscured. This fence shall be no greater than four feet (4') in height, unless the principal structure encroaches into the required front yard or side yard abutting a street, in which case such a fence may be as close to the front or side lot line as the encroaching structure
- Fences installed in a rear yard abutting a street shall comply with the standards and specifications for a fence erected in a required front yard. Fences up to six feet (6') high located in a rear yard abutting a street may be approved by the Building & Zoning Department Director if said fence is setback a distance of at least ten feet (10') from the abutting street right-of-way and otherwise in compliance with this section.

As property owner and/or applicant for the fence intended to be installed at the above address, I understand and agree to the above noted requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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