

Fence Regulations

NO PERMIT REQUIRED for fencing not exceeding 6' in height measured from grade to the top of the fence.

SETBACKS: NO setback is required for fences up to 6' in height.

HEIGHT: Front Yard: 4' maximum height. No chain link, electric, barbed wire, plastic (snow) temporary fencing allowed.

Side and Rear Yard: 6' maximum height unless a building permit is applied for, plans submitted and approved. No electric or barbed wire fencing allowed.

FENCES EXCEEDING 6' IN HEIGHT contact Construction Services & Inspections Division for site-specific requirements.



City of Duluth

**Construction Services &
Inspections Division**
Room 210 – 411 W 1st Street
Duluth MN 55802-1194
Main Phone: 218.730.5300
Permitting: 218.730.5240
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[http://www.duluthmn.gov/
building_safety/](http://www.duluthmn.gov/building_safety/)

City of Duluth

**Construction Services &
Inspections Division**



Fences

Rules & Regulations

General Rules for Building Fences



Locating Property Lines

The first step in planning a fencing project is to determine your property boundary lines. Landmarks such as old fence lines, trees and light poles are **NOT** reliable benchmarks for finding property lines. The only absolute way to determine property boundaries is to locate survey pins or to have a new survey done. Remember that it is the responsibility of the property owner erecting the fence to know where their property boundaries are. A dispute as to the location of a property line is a civil matter between abutting land owners.

Designing your fence

There is a wide variety of fencing material on the market. You should consider your reason for wanting a fence. If you are looking for privacy, a wood fence may be your best option. Chain link fencing in a side or rear yard may be suitable to keep a pet in your yard, but retain openness to the neighborhood. Fencing may also be ornamental and be designed as a landscape feature in your yard.

**Remember to call before
you dig: 811**

(800) 252-1166 or
(651) 454-0002

<http://www.gopherstateonecall.org/>



In general, local zoning code prohibits the use of chain link fences, fencing which is electrically charged, fencing constructed of barbed wire or temporary plastic (snow fencing) in a **front yard** (the area from the principal structure to the front property line). In addition, the height of a fence in a front yard is restricted to 4' in height, measured from grade to the highest point of the fence.

Fences that are electrically charged and those constructed of barbed or razor wire are generally prohibited in side and rear yards. See Section 50-26.4 for more details.

Setbacks: Fences may be located up to a property line. Please be certain of property line locations and remember to allow room on both sides of the fence for future maintenance. Consider how snow removal may be impacted by the location of the fence and leave plenty of room for the city plow trucks along alley and street lines.