

**CITY OF EFFINGHAM, ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL
GUIDELINES FOR RESIDENTIAL FENCING**

At this time no permit is required for fences, however they must comply with the following:

Fences shall be constructed to generally accepted construction standards and methods with fence section components attached to vertical supports (posts) to securely maintain a plumb and level position:

1. Fences shall not exceed eight (8') feet in height in the rear or side yard and shall be between three (3') feet and four (4') feet in height in the front yard.
2. Fences can be placed on the property line in the rear and side yards; except,
3. Fences cannot be closer than twenty (20') feet to the curb or edge of the roadway or five (5') feet from the rear edge of the public sidewalk, whichever is greater.
4. **FENCES MAY NEVER BE PLACED ON PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY (ROW) NOR MAY THEY EVER CREATE A SIGHT DISTANCE ISSUE.**
5. It is the responsibility of the property owner installing the fence to ensure that the fence is on their property – it is recommended that a surveyor be contacted to locate or establish the property corners and lines.
6. In rear and side yards, fences may be open style or solid/stockade style. Fences in a front yard must be open style fencing (chain link, picket, split rail, or other similar style as approved by the Building Official).

NOTE: For the purposes of fencing (item 6 only), corner lots and double frontage lots the front yard is considered to be the street frontage with the front or main entrance to the residence (the street the home is addressed from).

7. Barbed wire, razor wire, electric and snow style fencing are expressly prohibited. Plywood and t-posts may not be used as permanent fencing materials.
8. All fences – EXCEPT in the B-3 – may not be higher than 30 inches above the street grade within twenty (20) feet of any street intersection, alley or entrance to maintain sight distances.
 - For commercial applications such as required buffers, fencing shall either be reviewed by Site Plan or by City staff as needed.

For questions, contact Building Official's Office, at City Hall, 201 E. Jefferson Ave., Effingham, IL 62401, or call (217) 342-5300 ext. 3 regarding these regulations. To find the exact code language visit the City's website at www.effinghamil.com.

