

# FENCE PERMIT INFORMATION

CITY OF DUNDAS  
216 RAILWAY ST N - PO BOX 70  
DUNDAS, MN 55019  
Phone: 507-645-2852 Fax: 507-645-2852  
Email: [cityhall@dundas.us](mailto:cityhall@dundas.us)

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON FENCE REQUIREMENTS

The City of Dundas requires a fence permit for the construction of all fences three (3) to six (6) feet in height within ten (10) feet of a property line. All fences greater than six (6) feet in height shall require a building permit instead of a fence permit. A \$50 fee is required and the City may require a \$100 escrow in cases where review is necessary by the City Engineer, Attorney, or other consultants.

All fence permit applications shall include a certificate of survey and/or accurate site map, drawn to scale, showing and/or labeling the following:

- (a) Property address and/or legal description.
- (b) Adjacent streets and street names.
- (c) Property lines and property line dimensions.
- (d) Proposed fence type.
- (e) Proposed location of the fence and distance from property lines.
- (f) Existing objects and/or structures located near the proposed fence.

Upon issuance of a fence permit a site inspection must be conducted by City Staff. The applicant or a representative of the applicant must be present for the site inspection. Before a site inspection is conducted by the designated city official, the following items shall be located on site and clearly marked with paint, flags, stakes, and/or laths:

- (a) Property corners. The City may require the owner of the property upon which a fence exists, or any applicant wishing to construct a fence, to establish the boundary lines of the property by a survey thereof to be made by any licensed land surveyor.
- (b) Boundary lines.
- (c) Proposed fence location.

### **Placing of Fences in Easements:**

- (a) Private fences shall not extend into any public easement except by means of an encroachment agreement approved by the city. The approval or denial of such an agreement shall be solely within the discretion of the Zoning Administrator and City Engineer. Said encroachment agreement shall also be recorded with the county recorder's office.
- (b) The city or any utility company having authority to use the easement shall not be liable for repair or replacement of fences in the event that they are moved, damaged, or destroyed by virtue of the lawful use of the easement.
- (c) Any fence placed in a drainage easement shall not adversely affect drainage or create debris buildup.
- (d) All fence applicants and/or property owners are responsible for verifying that no conflict exists with utilities prior to installation.

# FENCING PERMIT INFORMATION

## Page 2

### Fence Setbacks:

- (a) Fences shall be placed on the boundary line between properties or maintain a five foot setback.
- (b) When placing a fence on the property line, the property owner wishing to build the fence shall provide an agreement, in writing, that adjoining property adjoining agrees that such fence may be erected on the division line of the respective properties.
- (c) Private fences adjacent to wetlands shall be set back in accordance with all applicable wetland buffer regulations.

### Residential Fence Heights:

- (a) Side and Rear Yards: Fences located within a side or rear yard shall not exceed six feet (6') in height.
- (b) Yards Adjacent to Streets: Fences exceeding four feet in height shall not be erected within a required front yard setback or side yard setback adjacent to a street.
- (c) Through Lots: On through lots fences six feet in height may be permitted 5 feet from the right-of-way that the lot does not derive access from provided no other lot on the block is permitted to access from said right-of-way. Otherwise, the standards for front yards shall be met.
- (d) Irregular Lot: In the case of an irregular shaped lot/parcel, the Zoning Administrator shall determine the most appropriate fence height and type based on the requirements stated in this section.
- (e) Nonresidential Fence Heights: In business and industrial zones, fences may not exceed seven (7) feet in height above the ground level.

Permitted Residential Fence Types: Residential fences constructed along a property boundary line shall be sturdy fencing constructed of low maintenance materials that are residential in nature, such as vinyl coated chainlink, steel, aluminum, wrought iron, vinyl, composite, wood, or other similar materials determined acceptable by the Zoning Administrator.

Fencing Materials: All fences must be constructed in a substantial, workmanlike manner and of materials reasonably suited for the purpose for which the fence is proposed to be used.

No barbed wire fences shall be allowed in the residential zoning districts, unless the City council has approved a site plan which includes barbed wire fencing for security purposes. In the commercial and industrial districts, the use of barbed wire is prohibited, except that the top one (1) foot of any fence along side or rear lot lines in these zones may be constructed of barbed wire. Barbed wire is also permitted for the top one (1) foot of fences in industrial zones when fronting a public street and placed no closer than the parking setback. Barbed wire shall not be permitted adjacent to any residential district.

All razor wire and electric fences are prohibited.

# FENCING PERMIT INFORMATION

## Page 3

### Other General Regulations:

- (1) No fence shall be installed so as to obstruct a required clear view at street intersections.
- (2) Fences shall be installed with the finished side facing neighboring properties.
- (3) All boundary fences shall be constructed so as to leave adequate clearance between the ground level and the bottom of the fence in order that the yard/landscaping lying directly under the fence can be easily trimmed and maintained.