



Fences and Walls

Frequently Asked Questions:

Do I need a permit to construct a fence or wall?

No.

Where can I place my fence or wall?

- Most importantly, you should know where your property pins are. Do not go by what a realtor or neighbor tells you, a row of bushes or trees, or the location of your neighbor's fence. If you cannot find your property pins, have your property surveyed.
- You can put your fence or wall on the property line; however your neighbor can refuse to allow you on their property to repair or maintain your fence.
- Fences or walls installed on the property line may be utilized by adjoining property owners as part of their fence or wall.

Is there anything else I should know?

- Putting a fence or wall inside an easement is strongly discouraged. Any utility that has right to that easement has the authority to remove or destroy any fence, shed or other obstacle within that easement if it interferes with access to their utility. They are only responsible for restoring the area back to its natural grade, not replacing the obstacles.
- Contact the utility locating company, J.U.L.I.E. at 811 or log on to illinois1call.com to have all underground utilities marked.
- Barbed wire or any sharp-pointed fences are prohibited in residential areas within the city.
- Fences or walls shall not restrict or obstruct the flow of ground water according to the Illinois Drainage Code.
- Tall grass or weeds that grow along the outside of your fence or wall are your responsibility; not your neighbor's.
- No fence, shrub, or other obstruction shall restrict the view of any right-of-way or vehicular traffic. Maximum fence heights in front yards are limited to 4 feet; side and rear yards cannot exceed 8 feet in residential areas.
- The Building & Zoning Dept. can provide you with an aerial view and measurements of your property along with suggestions on locating your property pins.