

Sec. 130-540. Fences

(a) *Applicability.* The requirements of this section apply to fences more than 30 inches in height. All fences constructed or rebuilt after August 14, 2007, are subject to the provisions of this Section 130-540.

(b) *Measurement of fence height.* The height of a fence shall be measured from the adjoining ground surface to the top of the fence material (not the fence post, pole, or column).

(c) *Construction specifications.* A fence shall meet the following construction specifications, some of which are depicted in Exhibit 1:

- (1) *Width.* With the exception of vertical supports, the width of a fence shall not exceed 14 inches.
- (2) *Height.* The top of a fence shall not exceed the height listed in Exhibit 2. Where a fence is located on a slope and is stepped, each section shall not be wider than 8 feet and the height shall be measured in the middle of the stepped section (Exhibit 3).

Exhibit 1. General construction specifications

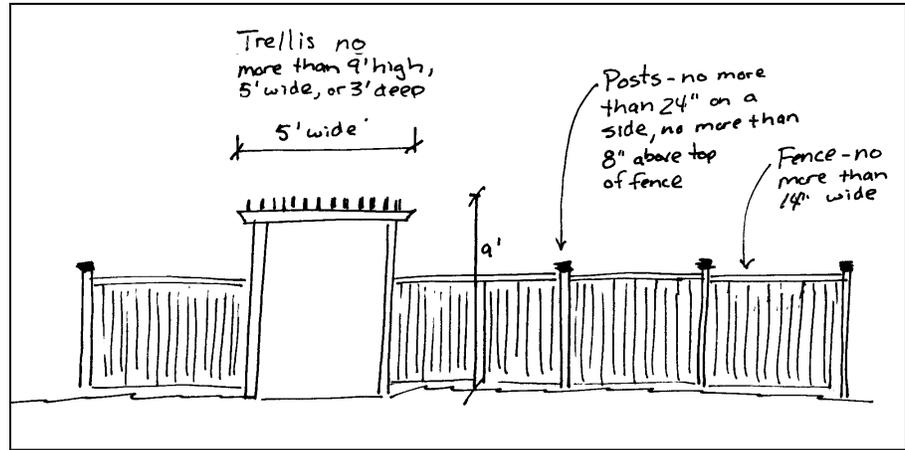


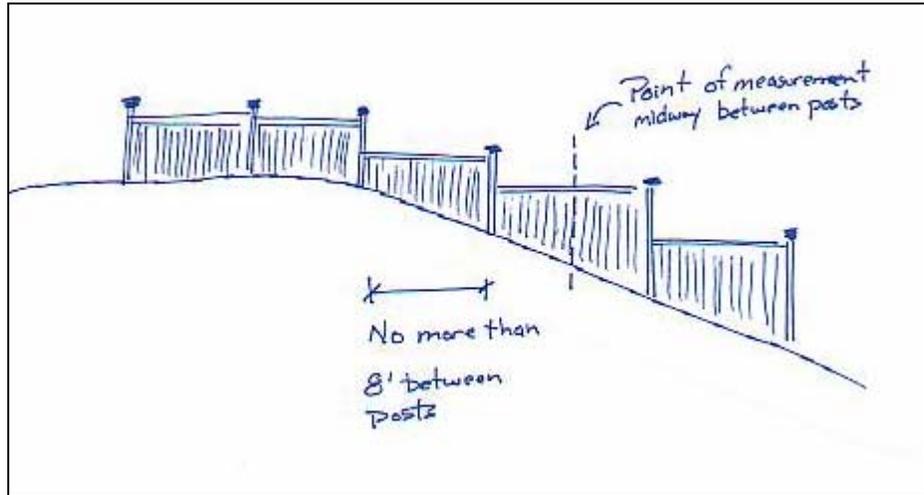
Exhibit 2. Maximum fence height

Location	Residential Zoning Districts	Commercial Zoning Districts	Industrial Zoning Districts
Front yard	3 feet	3 feet	8 feet
Side yard, street side	3 feet	3 feet	8 feet
Side yard (interior lot)	6 feet	6 feet	8 feet
Rear yard	6 feet	6 feet	8 feet

(3) *Orientation.*

All non-decorative posts, horizontal supports, cross-members, and the like shall be oriented inward to the lot on which the fence is located.

Exhibit 3. Special standards for a stepped fence



(4) *Materials.* A fence shall be

constructed of building materials commonly used for fence construction in the region, except for those specifically prohibited in this section. A fence located in a front yard or in a side yard that abuts a street right-of-way shall have a maximum opacity of 50 percent. All other fences may be solid from the ground to the maximum height. Snow fences constructed of wood and wire, and/or plastic shall be permitted only as temporary fences.

(5) *Vertical support specifications.* A vertical support, such as a post or column, shall not exceed 24 inches in width or extend more than 24 inches above the top of the highest point of the adjoining fence.

(6) *Trellises.* A trellis may extend above a pedestrian walkway provided it is not taller than 9 feet, wider than 5 feet, or deeper than 3 feet.

(7) *Arbors.* An arbor may be incorporated into the overall design of a fence provided no part is taller than 8 feet and does not extend for more than 10 percent of the length of the side on which it is located.

(d) *Location specifications.* A fence shall meet the following locational specifications (Exhibit 4):

(1) A fence shall be located on the owner's side of a property line.

(2) A fence shall not be closer than 1 foot to the front lot line or other property boundary line when adjoining a pedestrian walkway or the like.

(3) A fence may be placed within a utility easement with the understanding that the utility authority may remove such fence at the property owner's expense and is not liable for any damage to the fence or the reconstruction of the fence.

- (4) A fence shall not be located within a drainage easement. Upon written petition, the building inspector may allow a fence in a drainage easement when it can be shown that the fence will not restrict the flow of storm water.

(e) *Special standards for fencing around a swimming pool.* A fence may be located around a swimming pool provided it meets the standards in the most current edition of ANSI/IAF-8 as promulgated by the American National Standards Institute and Association of Pool and Spa Professionals that relate to barriers and fencing.

(f) *Special standards for fencing around a tennis court and the like.* A fence may be located around a tennis court, basketball court, volleyball court, or other sports-related court, provided it meets the following standards:

- (1) The fence shall not exceed 12 feet in height.
- (2) The fence shall not be located within a setback line.
- (3) Any portion of the fence above 6 feet in height shall be an open woven wire.

(g) *Special standards for temporary fencing.* A temporary fence may be used for the duration of a construction project with a valid building permit.

(h) *Solid masonry fencing.* A solid masonry fence shall not impede the natural flow of storm water.

(i) *Barbed wire fencing.* Barbed wire fencing is prohibited except as follows:

- (1) Three courses of barbed wire may be installed above the top line of a 6-foot high chainlink fence when located in an industrial zoning district.
- (2) Barbed wire may be used when in an agriculturally zoned district.

(j) *Electric fencing.* Electrically-charged fencing is prohibited except that the building inspector may allow it in an agricultural district when used to retain animals and it will not pose a safety hazard.

(k) *Maintenance.* A fence shall be maintained in a structurally sound manner.

Exhibit 4. Locational specifications

