

FENCE PERMITS



In Monona, fences on residential lots require a [Fence Permit](#). Fences in commercial or industrial areas may require approval by the Plan Commission. Fences are regulated by [Section 175-22 of the Building Code](#).

Process

Fence Permits for the Single- and Two-Family zoning districts are reviewed by the Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector.

If the proposed fence meets all code requirements, it can be approved administratively.

Permit Application

A complete [fence permit application](#) includes:

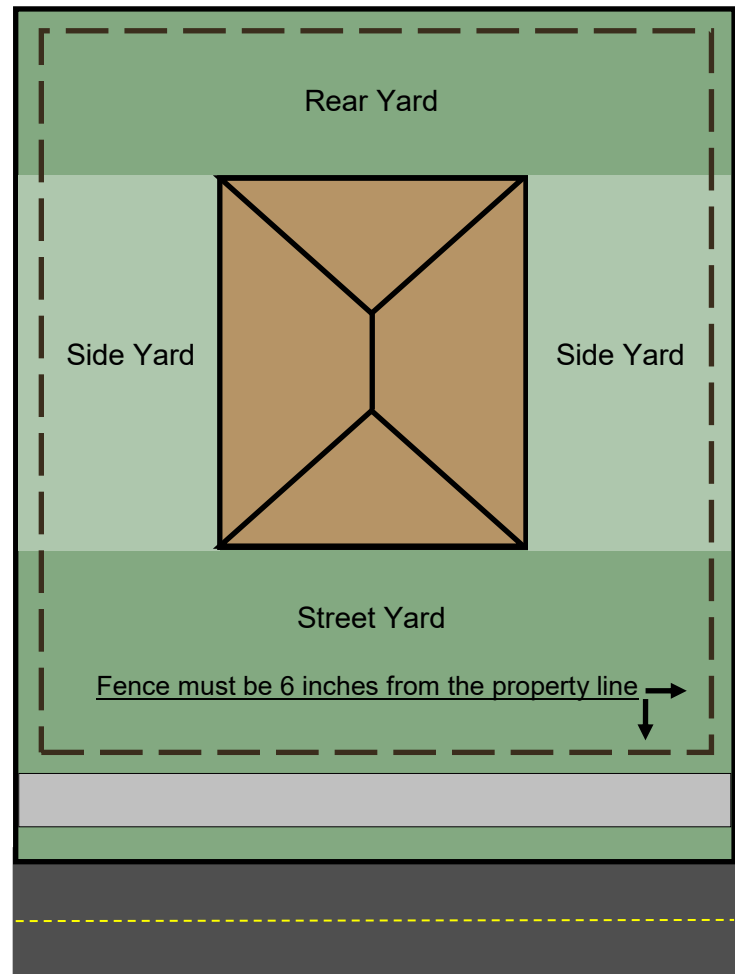
- Completed Fence Permit application form
- Scale drawings of the proposed fence location on the lot, with dimensions.
- A formal property survey may also be required.
- \$100 permit fee.

Fence Requirements

Fences or hedges are defined as any partition, structure, wall, gate or planted materials (excluding trees), of masonry, posts and boards, palings or woven wire, or wrought iron, used as a dividing marker, barrier or enclosure.

Fences must meet the following requirements:

- Can be up to 6ft tall in the rear and side yard and cannot extend beyond the front building line.
- Can be up to 42in tall in the shore yard, and must be 10ft from the Ordinary High Water Mark.
- In the street yard, fences can be up to 42in tall, must be set back 6in from the property line, and must be made from decorative, natural materials.
- Cannot be placed in any location that creates potentially hazardous sight-line situations and cannot be placed in the City right-of-way or easement.
- Gates shall swing in toward the lot on which the fence is placed.
- Structural elements, like fence posts, must be oriented to face the interior of the lot on which the fence is placed.



**It is recommended that you contact the [Digger's Hot-line](#) before installing a fence on your property.



DOUG PLOWMAN, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
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CITY OF MONONA

FENCE PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

For all fence standards and requirements see Monona Municipal Code Chapter 175, Article 22. Contact the City Planner with any questions at (608) 222-2525 or dplowman@ci.monona.wi.us

§ 175-22 Fences and hedges.

A. Residential fences. Fences or hedges for residential one- and two-family dwellings shall be erected or planted within the lot lines. All fences and hedges shall be erected or planted so as to not depreciate any immediate property or endanger any lives, as determined by the Building Inspector. Residential fences shall comply with the following requirements:

(1) Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

FENCES or HEDGES

Any partition, structure, wall, gate or planted materials (excluding trees), of masonry, posts and boards, palings or woven wire, or wrought iron, used as a dividing marker, barrier or enclosure.

(2) Dimensional requirements.

- (a)** The maximum dimension of wood posts shall be six inches nominal.
- (b)** The maximum dimension of boards shall be one by eight inches nominal.
- (c)** The maximum diameter of individual poles of a stockade fence shall be three inches nominal.
- (d)** The use of doors or plywood sheets is prohibited.
- (e)** Subject to the terms of this section, all structural elements of the fence shall face the interior of the lot on which the fence is erected unless otherwise exempted by the Building Inspector.
- (f)** Barbed wire and electrical fences are prohibited.
- (g)** Street yards, side yards, rear yards and shore yards, for purposes of the section, are determined as provided by the City's Zoning Code (Chapter **480**).

(3) Fence height.

- (a)** Fences or hedges in side and rear yards shall not exceed six feet in height. Fences or hedges in side yards shall not extend beyond the front building line of the dwelling.
- (b)** Fences or hedges on lots with water frontage shall comply with all requirements of this section, except that, on the shore yard, the fences or hedges shall be limited to a maximum height of 42 inches and shall not be closer than 10 feet from the ordinary high-water mark.

(4) Fences or hedges in street yards. Only decorative fences or hedges may be erected in street yards, subject to the following requirements:

- (a)** Decorative fences or hedges shall be defined as a barrier which utilizes natural materials such as wood or stone and includes such plant materials as hedges. Wire, chain-link or cyclone-type fencing materials are prohibited.
- (b)** In no case may a fence be closer than six inches to the property line. Hedges may be planted no closer than 18 inches to the lot line and must be maintained within the lot lines. No fencing shall be allowed in a right-of-way or easement. No fence or hedge shall be erected on any corner lot less than 10

feet from the traveled portion of any public highway. Fences or hedges are also prohibited in any location where such barrier creates a potentially hazardous sight-line situation, as determined by the Building Inspector. In making such determination, the Building Inspector shall utilize the "vision triangle formula" of the City Engineer.

(c) No such decorative fence or hedge shall exceed 42 inches in height.

(5) Fence permit required. No fence shall be erected in the City until a permit for the same has been granted by the Building Inspector. Specifications or a design sketch shall be submitted to the Building Inspector at the time of application for his or her approval. A permit fee as required by § **175-9** shall accompany the application for permit.

(6) Maintenance. All fences or hedges shall be maintained in a neat, sightly manner. The Building Inspector may condemn any fence or hedge not so maintained. The determination to condemn a fence or hedge under this subsection shall be made in accordance with the definitions and procedures outlined in this chapter.

(7) Nonconforming fences. All nonconforming fences or hedges existing on the effective date of this section or any amendment of this section may be continued, provided that only fences or hedges that are in actual use, maintained, and do not create or continue a hazard may be so continued. No such fence or hedge shall be extended, enlarged, reconstructed or altered.

(8) Fence gates. All gates shall swing in toward the lot on which the fence is erected.

B. Fences or hedges for commercial, industrial or multiple-family dwellings. All of the requirements of Subsection **A** shall apply to zoning districts other than one- and two-family dwellings, except that barbed tops are permitted in commercial and industrially zoned areas on fences of not less than six feet in height, with approval of the Building Inspector. Rolled or concertine-type barbed wire is prohibited. The Building Inspector and the Zoning Administrator shall consult with the Plan Commission as necessary in determining whether to issue a permit for a fence in a commercial, industrial or multifamily district.



CITY OF MONONA: FENCE PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

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APPLICANT INFORMATION:				
Applicant Name:				
Property Address:				
Email:		Phone:		
Property Location:	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential (Single/Two-Family)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comm./Industrial/ Multi-Family	Est. Project Cost:	\$
Fence Contractor:			License/Cert. #	
Owner Signature:	_____		Date:	_____
LOCATION OF FENCE (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY):				
<input type="checkbox"/> Street (Front) Yard	<input type="checkbox"/> Side Yard	<input type="checkbox"/> Rear Yard	<input type="checkbox"/> Shore Yard	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
FENCE HEIGHT:				
Street (Front) Yard	Side Yard	Rear Yard	Shore Yard	Other
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
FENCE GATE:				
Does the fence have a gate? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Does it open into your property? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
FENCE MATERIAL:				
State what type of material is proposed for the fence: _____				

FENCE PERMIT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications must include:

- Completed fence permit application form.
- Scale drawing of proposed fence location on the lot, with dimensions. Depending upon location, a formal property survey may also be required.

Other requirements:

- Submit electronic (PDF) files of all applications via email to the City Planner.
- The fee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) for zoning review, and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the building permit.

Note: City Staff may contact you to schedule an inspection once the fence is installed, to ensure it meets the conditions of approval.

Below Space for Office Use				
Date Approved:			Permit Number:	
Approvals:	Zoning: _____		Building Inspector: _____	
Conditions of Approval:			Fee: \$	Paid: