



## **Building Fences and Walls**

July 2015

**PLEASE NOTE:** Informational Bulletins should not be used as substitutes for actual codes and regulations. Detailed information regarding codes and regulations can be obtained by calling the Code Administration Division at (307) 721-5271.

Fences and walls are required to comply with all applicable zoning and building codes. Retaining walls over 4' require a permit. Fences greater than 7' require a permit.

### **Maximum Fence Heights**

Front lot line to the front of the principal building - **4' maximum.**

No fence shall be higher than **6'** between the front lot line and **45'** back.

No wall or fence shall exceed **8'** in height when located more than **45'** from the front lot line.



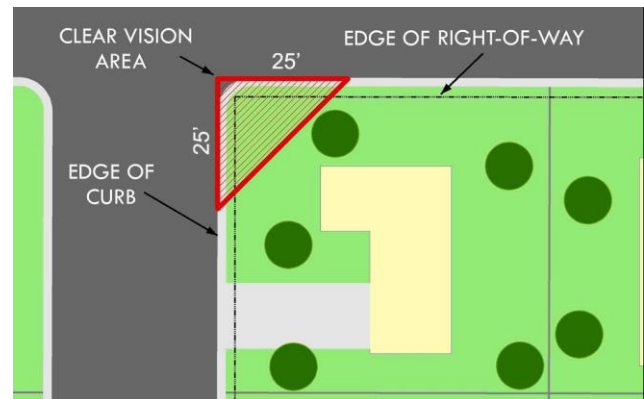
### **Fence Location**

Fences may be built up to, but not over your property line. It is advisable to have your lot surveyed if the exact locations of your property lines are not known.

Fences cannot cover or enclose gas meters, electrical meters or transformers, water meter vaults, water shut-off valves, or other utilities.

### **Clear Vision Areas at Intersections**

No obstruction that will obscure the view of motor vehicle drivers shall be placed within the triangular area formed by the adjoining street property lines and a line connecting them at points 25 feet from the intersection of said street property lines.



### **Wall and Fence Materials**

Walls and fences shall be constructed with any combination of the following materials.

- Integrally-colored, split-face, or ground-face concrete masonry units (CMU)
- Concrete masonry units that have been painted, stuccoed, or faced with another permitted material
- Stone (natural or simulated)
- Brick
- Vinyl
- Wrought-iron or other decorative metal
- Wood (painted or stained), or other materials as approved by the planning commission
- Chain Link

### **General Fencing Requirements**

Wood posts shall be of a species with natural resistance to decay, such as cedar, redwood or pressure-treated pine or fir with a minimum nominal dimension of 4"x 4". Galvanized steel posts, vinyl, concrete, or other materials approved for outdoor use may be used.

The recommended bury depth for a fence post or foundation is 42" for frost protection.

Barbed-wire fencing visible from adjacent rights-of-way is prohibited on commercial and residential development sites. Barbed-wire fencing or other

materials considered to be dangerous is not allowed in residential areas.

Colors, materials, and forms for walls and fences that complement the architectural character of the primary building or overall development shall be used.

### **Highly Visible Fences and Walls**

A higher level of design detail shall be required for highly visible walls and fences along major or minor arterial or collector roadways, and interstate highways, including, but not limited to elements such as the incorporation of mosaic designs, relief panels, or similar public art. In order to achieve this end, the following provisions shall apply to new construction on properties abutting major or minor arterial or collector streets and interstate highways:

All design review plans for new construction shall include elevations and details for fencing visible from major or minor arterial or interstate highways, with detail specifications for color, texture, articulation, and artistic or graphic design elements. Review of design review plans shall address architectural and graphic compatibility with the remainder of the project and with surrounding natural and built landscape.

All proposed preliminary subdivision plats for property abutting major or minor arterial or interstate rights-of-way shall include a required common fencing plan, applicable to proposed lots abutting said rights-of-way. The common fencing plan shall include elements specified above and shall be reviewed according to the compatibility criteria as specified therein.

Use of chain link, barbed wire or vinyl fencing is prohibited for fencing visible from major or minor arterial or interstate rights-of-way.

### **Articulation and Design**

Walls and fences shall be articulated to avoid continuous, unbroken expanses. No wall or fence facing a collector or arterial street, or adjacent to an interstate highway may extend continuously, without articulation, for more than 100 feet, or 50 feet for walls or fences facing any other type of public street. Columns or pilasters shall be a maximum of 25 feet apart. Fences or walls may be articulated using any combination of the following:

- Changes in material or texture, including the use of view walls that allow for views into the site.
- Offsets (projections or recessions).
- Landscape pockets.
- Similar features as approved.

Fences built on property lines at alleys must have provisions for refuse cans, unless curbside trash service is used in your neighborhood.

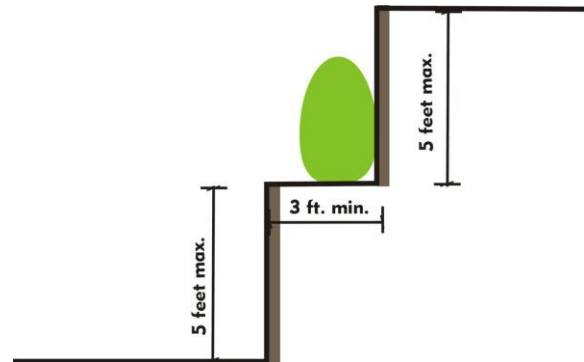
### **Fence Maintenance**

All property owners must maintain their fences, both structurally and visually.

### **Retaining Walls**

Retaining walls may be used to minimize cuts and fills. Generally, a retaining wall shall be no higher than 5 feet, except that a wall varied in height to accommodate a variable slope shall have an average height no greater than 5 feet, and a maximum height no greater than 10 feet, in any 100 foot length. The wall shall incorporate a landscaped terrace, a minimum of 3 feet in depth, in-between each 5 foot section. A higher wall is permitted internally at the split between one-and-two-story portions of a building, and where it is substantially hidden from public view at the rear of a building, where it cannot exceed the eave height of the building.

A building permit is required for retaining walls over 4 feet in height must be designed by a Wyoming registered engineer in accordance with the building code.



### **Call Before You Dig**

Wyoming statutes require that you call the following phone number at least two working days prior to digging or excavating.

Call Before You Dig of Wyoming:  
811 (or from out-of-state, 1-800-849-2476)