

# FENCE

## Permit Submittal:

- **Permit application.** Include estimated cost of construction and all contractors and their contact information listed.
- **Plat of survey.** indicating the proposed location of the fence or dog run on the property. Use the symbol **X—X—X—X—X** to indicate the fence and provide dimensions to locate proposed installation location.
- **Indicate the style of fence and the fence height** on the plat of survey or provide a picture or photocopy of the proposed fence.
- **Homeowner's Association Approval:** If applicable, provide a letter of approval from your HOA.
- **Fees.** The city will contact you when your permit is ready. Payment can be made online or in person. Cash, check, or credit/debit cards are accepted.

## Construction Requirements:

- **ALL STRUCTURAL and NON-STRUCTURAL** portions of the fence located entirely on the owner's property.
- **NON-STRUCTURAL** portion of a fence may be attached to an adjoining neighbor's fence, but only upon written permission of the affected neighbor.
- **Post Hole Depth:** Minimum 36"
- Fences shall be installed with a minimum clearance of two inches (2") above the existing ground level when installed on a drainage easement.
- The **FINISHED SIDE OF THE FENCE PANEL MUST BE FACING OUT,** with all posts and supporting members facing the interior of the owner's yard.
- At least one (1) gate allowing access to the enclosed area shall be provided.
- Fence in required front yard shall be **SPLIT RAIL, PICKET OR WROUGHT IRON** style only, additionally the fence requires a minimum of 50% opacity and maximum height of 48-inches.
- Fence in required side & rear yard may be installed up to the owner's property line.
- Fence in a corner side yard may be installed no closer than 5-feet to the owner's property line, however requirement for clear line of sight for pedestrians and vehicles may require further setback.
- All chain link fencing shall be installed with the knuckle side up.
- **When a fence is installed in an easement, it shall be the owners' responsibility to remove the fence should access to the easement be required.**
- **POOL BARRIER** has additional requirements. Specifications may be obtained at the Community Development Department.

## Maximum fence height is as follows:

- |                     |           |                                       |
|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| ○ Front Yard:       | 4-feet    |                                       |
| ○ Corner Side Yard: | 6-feet    |                                       |
| ○ Side Yard:        | 6-feet ** | **When abutting non-residential zoned |
| ○ Rear Yard:        | 6-feet ** | property 8-feet is allowed            |

### **DOG RUN REQUIREMENTS:**

- No more than one dog run shall be permitted on any lot.
- Fence type for dog runs shall be open fence (as defined by Ordinance), Solid wood fences are prohibited.
- A dog run shall be setback at least 10' from a lot line, however, dog runs are not permitted in a front or side yard.
- Maximum fence height for a dog run is 8'.
- The total combined length of all sides of a dog run shall not exceed 50'.

### **PROHIBITED FENCES:**

- Electrical Fences
- Snow Fences
- Barbed Wire Fences
- Chicken Wire Fences
- Farm Style Fences
- Plywood, scrap lumber, temporary fencing or other similar non-customary materials

### **Inspections:**

- 24-hour notice is required when scheduling inspections. Call 815-363-2170 to schedule.
- Inspections are schedule Monday-Friday, 9am – noon or 1pm - 4pm
  - **Post Hole & string line** prior to placing concrete
  - **Final**

### **Reminder:**

- State Law requires the actual person doing the digging to contact J.U.L.I.E. for location of underground utilities 48 hours before starting to dig. Call 800-892-0123 or 811.
- Fences shall be installed within 90-days after issuance of permit.

If you have questions regarding your project, please contact the Community Development Department at 815-363-2170.

***Please note the information provided in this handout is general in nature. If you have specific questions or need additional information, please contact a Community Development Department representative at (815) 363-2170 or [ced@cityofmchenry.org](mailto:ced@cityofmchenry.org)***