City of Urbandale
3600 86th Street
Urbandale, IA 50322-4057

Building Department (515) 278-3930
Fax No. (515) 278-3927

Fence Regulations

- **Building Permit Required:**
  Applications for building permits may be obtained from the Building Department.
- **Permit Fees:** $35.00 Total
- **Maximum Fence Height**:
  Front Yard: 4 feet maximum Side and Rear Yards: 6 feet maximum
- **Setbacks:**
  Requirements are based on information shown on Final Plats and as allowed per Zoning Ordinance. Setback information is noted on the issued building permit.
- **Easements**:
  Public Utility Easements may be encroached by a fence at the owner's risk.
  Storm Sewer Easements, Sanitary Sewer Easements, Drainage Easements, Surface Water Flowage Easements, and Pedestrian Easements prohibit encroachment by structures such as fences. Requests for encroachment of these types of easements, except pedestrian easements, fall upon the discretion of the City Engineer. The requests may be forwarded to the Engineer via your building permit application, if desired.
- **Good Side vs. Bad Side:**
  The structural members of the fence may be located on either side of the fence. The exception is in the case of a fence for a swimming pool. Swimming pool requirements state that the fence must be six foot and non-climbable from the outside (see Swimming Pool hand-out for more details).
- **Restrictive Covenants:**
  The owner should check the restrictive covenants for their neighborhood to assure compliance with covenant regulations regarding fences. Restrictive covenant information may also be obtained at the Community Development office.
- **Fencing Prohibited:**
  Barbed wire, razor wire, and similar fencing types are prohibited. Wood fences must be treated wood, approved wood of natural resistance to decay, or adequately protected wood.
- **Need more Information?**
  Contact the Zoning Department at the Community Development and Engineering offices, 3600 86th Street, or by telephone at (515) 278-3935.
- **Call Before You Dig:** Call "One Call" for utility locations before you begin digging, at 1-800-292-8989. Utility locations are typically completed within 48 hours of your request. Underground utility location prior to digging is required by state law. This service is free of charge.

Required Inspections

1. **Pins and Setbacks**
   The property corner pins must be exposed to view and the locations for the fence corner posts marked. If the property corner pins cannot be found, it is the owner's responsibility to have a registered land surveyor or civil engineer establish these points.
2. **Final Inspection**