



Amherst Building Department

Fencing Guidelines

A permit is required to build or install any fencing.

Fencing is to be located a minimum of four (4) inches inside of the property line(s) of the property where the fencing is being installed unless written authorization is provided by the abutting property owner(s) to place the fencing closer than four (4) inches to the property line(s).

Fencing may be no higher than six (6) feet from established grade with the finished side of the fencing facing neighboring properties.

Fencing is not permitted in the front yard (beyond the front corner of the main structure or garage). A corner lot is considered to have two (2) front yard areas. Decorative fencing used for landscaping purposes is not subject to the front yard restriction as determined by the Building Inspector if not being used as a property boundary.

Property owners installing fences are responsible for maintaining both sides of the fence without encroaching on neighboring properties.

A site plan is required to be submitted with the permit application showing the fencing location as it relates to neighboring properties.

Fencing is required to have an operable gate for access to utility easement area and utility meters (i.e. gas, electrical, water, etc.).

Temporary fencing (i.e. snow fencing, roll wire etc.) is permitted for a maximum period of four (4) months and only for construction or snow control purposes.

All fencing shall be constructed and/or installed in accordance with all applicable building codes and manufacturers' installation instructions.

Permit approval does not release the homeowner of responsibility if fencing is installed within an easement of flood plain nor does permit approval supersede any deed restrictions or void prior conditions rendered by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Permits are valid for twelve (12) months from the date of issue.

All contractors and subcontractors are required to be licensed with the City of Amherst Building Department.