

The City has long maintained and enforced a variety of codes that govern fencing in residential areas. This helps to ensure a safe and pleasant environment and maintains the highest level of your property.

### CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

It is recommended that property owners call Gopher State One at **811** for utility locates prior to beginning the project.



### CODE ENFORCEMENT

If you feel there is a violation of fencing codes existing in your neighborhood, contact the Health & Inspections Department or, report your concern online by using the City's Complaint Submittal system at <https://sws.stcloudcity.com/etrakit>.

### CONTACTS

#### Health & Inspections Department

Code Enforcement  
400 2nd Street South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
(320) 255-7214

#### Planning & Zoning Department

Zoning Regulations  
Variance Inquiries  
400 2nd Street South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
(320) 255-7218

# Residential Fences



## HEIGHT

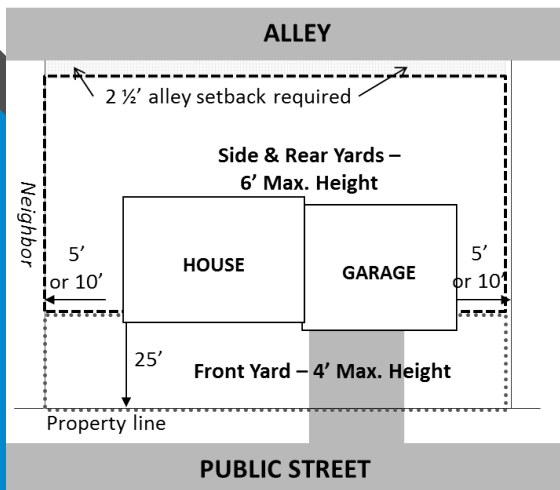
Front Yard Maximum Height: 4' high  
Side or Rear Yard Maximum Height: 6' high

The Land Development Code states specific instances where fences higher than six (6) feet may be allowed in a residential area. Contact the Planning & Zoning Office for additional information.

## YARDS

The front yard is an area beginning at the front property line abutting a street and extending 25' back.

Corner lots may cause confusion as to the location of the front and side yards. It is recommended that the property owner contact the Planning & Zoning Office with their plans prior to erecting any fencing.



## SETBACKS

Fence Abutting an Alley: 2.5' from property line  
All Other Fences: **Up to** but **not on** the property line

You are responsible for maintaining both sides of the fence, including grass and landscaping.

Too narrow of a setback will require you to cross onto a neighbor's property to maintain the fence or lawn. Too wide of a setback may result in you continually having to demonstrate that the fence does not indicate the property line.

## EASEMENTS

Constructing a fence within easement areas is permitted. However, if any utility work or drainage improvements are required within the easement, the fence may be removed at the property owner's expense.

## LOCATING PROPERTY LINES

Property lines can be determined by locating the property irons with the use of a metal detector. If you cannot locate the property irons, contact a local Land Surveyor to verify the exact location of property lines or to have new property irons set.

The City of St. Cloud does not offer property line location services.

## MATERIALS

Fences may be constructed of wood, metal, or plastic. Electric or barbed wire fences are not permitted in Residential Districts.

The City does not have requirements regarding the 'good' vs. 'bad' sides of the fence and their direction.

## SAFETY FENCES

All outdoor permanent swimming pools that contain twenty-four (24) inches or more of water require a six (6) foot high safety fence completely surrounding the pool.

Temporary pools do not require a safety fence.

## PERMITS

A permit is not required for fences six (6) feet and under.

## VARIANCES

Property owners can request deviations from the City's Land Development Code through a variance.

A variance is an 'exception' to the zoning laws which can only be granted when specific standards or criteria are met.

A variance requires an application, fee, and public hearing at the Zoning Board of Appeals.