



### **Fence Requirements (Sec. 33.07)**

**(a) Permit.** No person shall construct, or cause to be constructed, any fence in the City of Saint Paul without first obtaining a permit from the building official.

**(1) Fee.** \$37.00 for the first 200 lineal feet or fraction thereof erected and \$13.00 for each additional 100 lineal feet or fraction thereof.

**(2) Site Plan.** A site plan must be submitted showing the property lines, location, length, height and type of fence (wood, chain link, etc.) being installed. A survey may be needed if applicant can not locate property markers.

**(b) Height of fences.** No fence shall be erected exceeding six (6) feet six (6) inches in height above the sidewalk or finished grade of any lot in a residence district or on any lot occupied for residential purposes. The applicant shall ensure that fences and all supporting structures shall be completely within the boundaries of such lot with no portion encroaching onto adjacent property. All fences erected between the front property line and the front setback line as defined in section 60.207 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code shall be no more than four (4) feet in height. One a corner lot of two intersecting streets in a residential zoning district, no fence, wall or other structure shall be allowed above a height of two (2) feet from the sidewalk grade in the triangular area of the lot included within ten (10) feet of the corner along each lot line unless the structure is more than 80% open. Fences for nonresidential uses in residential zoning districts shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height, except fences around tennis courts, which shall not exceed twelve (12) feet in height, back stop fences, which shall not exceed twenty (20) feet in height, and golf range fences, which shall not exceed thirty (30) feet in height. The selvage end of chain link or metal fences shall be smooth; knuckled ends are permitted, twisted ends are not permitted.

**(c) Variances.** A variance of the fence height regulations may be granted if, after investigation by the building official, it is found that site, or terrain, or nuisance animal conditions warrant a waiver of the height restrictions. An application fee of seventy dollars (\$70.00) is required for each variance request.

**(d) Swimming pool fences.** All yards of one- and two-family structures containing swimming pools shall be enclosed by an obscuring fence not less than four (4) feet in height. All yards of residential structures of three (3) or more units and commercial structures containing swimming pools shall be enclosed by an obscuring fence not less than five (5) feet in height. The gates shall be of a self-closing and self-latching type, with the latch on the inside of the gate, not readily available for children to open. Gates shall be capable of being securely locked when the pool is not in use. Commercial and multi-family residential swimming pools require approval from the MN Dept. of Health (651)201-4500 or Steve Klemm (651)201-4503.

**(e) Barbed wire fences.** No barbed wire fence shall be constructed within the city limits of the City of Saint Paul, except for police and correction facilities, unless the following conditions are complied with:

**(1)** No fence which uses barbed wire may be built in, or abut, a residentially zoned district or built on or abut a lot occupied residentially.

**(2)** Barbed wire, not exceeding three (3) strands, may be permitted on the top of a fence; providing, that the arms do not project over public property. The minimum height to the bottom strand of the barbed wire shall not be less than six (6) feet from finished grade.

**(3)** In all cases where a barbed wire fence is requested, an application shall be made to the building official.

**(4)** A certificate of insurance indemnifying the City of Saint Paul shall be submitted with the application subject to the approval of the city attorney as to form and in an amount as set forth in Minnesota Statutes, Section 466.04.

**(f) Electric fences.** No above ground electric fence shall be constructed within the city limits of the City of Saint Paul.

**(g) Fences in Historic Districts.** If a fence is proposed for a designated Historic Site or within a Historic District, there will be a review by the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) staff within the Department of Safety and Inspection (DSI) to ensure that the fence meets the Guidelines of the District. A site plan will be required (typical of all fences) and also an elevation drawing which will illustrate all the details of the fence, including height, general

*(See reverse for Inspection Procedure)*

appearance of the fence materials to be used and whether it will be painted or stained. Call 651-266-9090 if uncertain whether a property is in a Historic District. To reach an HPC staff person, call 651-266-9078.

Fence Inspection Procedure:

The contractor (permittee) is responsible to properly locate the property lines, locate property pins or survey property; Also for arranging for the required inspections and assuring that the work is completed in compliance with applicable codes and ordinances.

The fence installer is responsible for locating the fence entirely within the boundaries of the property being fenced. If existing property markers cannot be located, the property boundary must be established by measurement from existing benchmarks or by placement of new property markers through a registered survey.

The inspector for your project is identified on the permit inspection card. If there is any question about the acceptability of existing property markers or benchmarks, contact the building inspector between 7:30 and 9:00 am for approval of the markers prior to installing the fence. Contact the building inspector as identified on the fence permit to arrange for a final inspection after completing the fence.



**CITY OF ST. PAUL**  
 DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND INSPECTIONS  
 375 JACKSON STREET, SUITE 220  
 ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101-1806

**FENCE PERMIT APPLICATION**

Visit our Web Site at [www.stpaul.gov/dsi](http://www.stpaul.gov/dsi)

<b>PROJECT ADDRESS</b>	Number	Street Name	St. Ave. Blvd. Etc.	N S E W	Suite/Apt	Building Name	Date
<b>Contractor</b> (Include Contact Person)	Address City State, Zip+4 <small>(Permit will be mailed to the Contractor's Address)</small>					Phone	
<b>Property Owner</b> (Include Contact Person)	Address City State, Zip+4					Phone	
The Fence will be erected on property which is :	<b>Type of Fence (Check all applicable boxes)</b>					<b>ESTIMATED VALUE OF PROJECT</b>	
<b>Commercial</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Obscuring Fence <input type="checkbox"/> 1 (Chain Link, Rail, etc.)		Privacy Fence <input type="checkbox"/> 2 (Obscuring)		\$		
<b>Residential</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Barbed Wire Fence <input type="checkbox"/> 3						
Enter # of Dwelling Units <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>(For Barbed Wire Fences Only: A Certificate of Insurance is Required Call 651-266-8989 for Insurance Requirements)</b>					<b>Estimated Start Date:</b>	<b>Estimated Finish Date:</b>
<b>Fence Length :</b> (Enter Total Lineal Feet)	<b>Fence Height:</b>		<b>Feet</b>	<b>Inches</b>	Will the Fence be erected on a corner lot: <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Description of Project:</b>							
Applicant certifies that all information is correct and that all pertinent state regulations and city ordinances will be complied with in performing the work for which this permit is issued.						<b>SUMMARY OF FEES</b>	
Applicant's Signature : _____ Date : _____							
<b>For Office Use Only</b>						<b>Permit Fee</b>	\$
<b>Zoning Remarks</b>	(For Barbed Wire Fence Only)	Historical Preservation	Zoning District	Lot Size Width Depth	<b>Plan Check Fee</b>		\$
	Certificate of Insurance		Property Usage		<b>Total Permit Fee</b>		\$
	<b>Required</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Required</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Reviewed By	Date	<b>(For Office Use Only)</b>	
<b>Plan Review Remarks</b>	Reviewed By	State Valuation	Plan Number	<b>PERMIT #</b>			
<b>Signature of Cardholder (required for all charges):</b> _____							
<input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa				Expiration Date: Month /Year ▶			
Enter Account Number ▶							



## Fence Inspection Procedure

The fence installer is responsible for locating the fence entirely within the boundaries of the property being fenced. If existing property markers cannot be located, the property boundary must be established by measurement from existing benchmarks or by placement of new property markers through a registered survey.

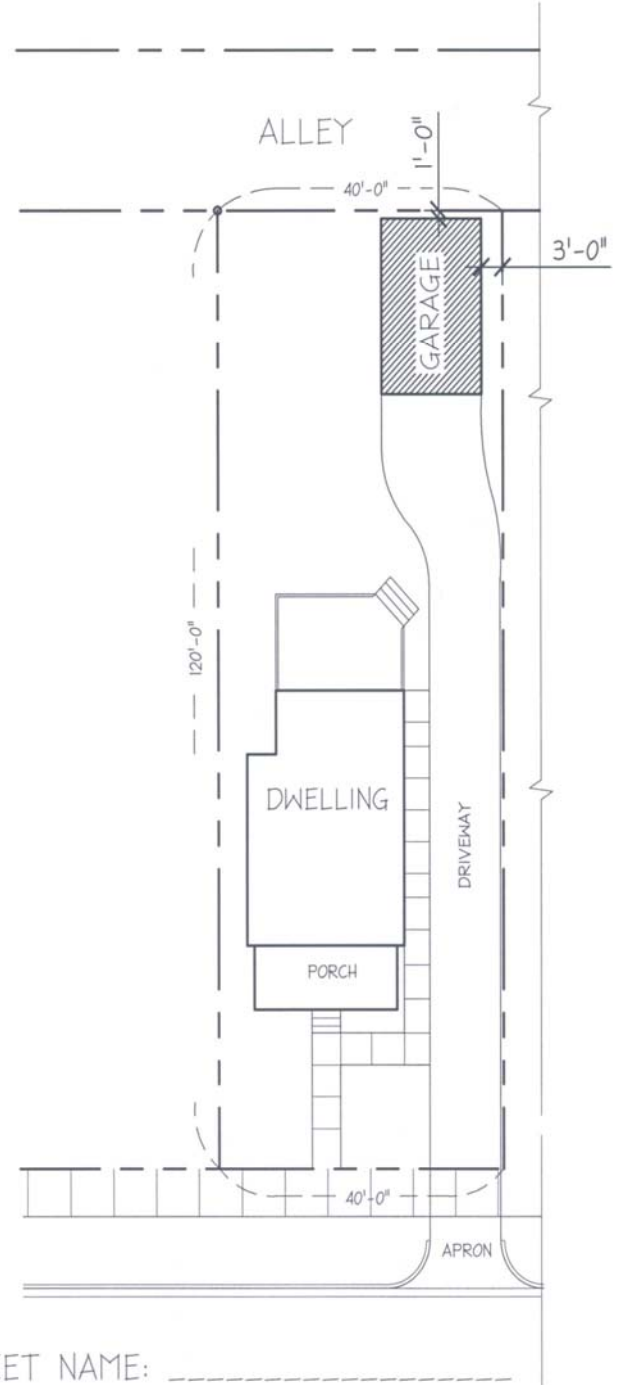
The inspector for your project is identified on the permit inspection card. If there is any question about the acceptability of existing property markers or benchmarks, contact the building inspector between 7:30 and 9:00 a.m. for approval of the markers prior to installing the fence. Contact the building inspector to arrange for a final inspection after completing the fence.

<b>Building Inspector Contact List</b>
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Joe Ehrlich (Sr. Inspector) .....	(651) 266-9021
Jon Hegner.....	(651) 266-9022
Greg Johnson .....	(651) 266-9029
Dave Kenyon.....	(651) 266-9024
Dave Nelson .....	(651) 266-9027
Mike Palm .....	(651) 266-9025
Jim Seeger .....	(651) 266-9016
Dave Tank .....	(651) 266-9020
Virgil Thomas .....	(651) 266-9023
Steve Ubl .....	(651) 266-9028

The contractor is responsible to properly locate the property lines; locate pins or survey property. Also, arranging for the required inspections, and assuring that the work is completed in compliance with applicable codes and ordinances.

## Example Site Plan



STREET NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are paying for your permit by *American Express, Discover, MasterCard* or *Visa*, you may fax your application.  
The credit card information section must be filled in and signed.  
Our FAX number is 651-266-9124.  
If paying by check, please mail the application and the check to us. Make checks payable to: City of Saint Paul**

Effective 01/01/2009

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR FENCE PERMITS**

### **FEES**

**\$37.00 for the first 200 lineal feet or fraction thereof erected and \$13.00 for each additional 100 lineal feet or fraction thereof.**

### **REQUIREMENTS**

**A site plan drawing must be submitted indicating the following information:**

- 1) All lot dimensions.**
- 2) Location of the dwelling unit and/or other structures.**
- 3) Street and alley locations.**
- 4) Location and height of fence segments.**

**NOTES: Corner Lots must be indicated.  
There are special requirements for obscuring fences at intersections.**

**Barbed Wire fence requires a Certificate of Insurance.  
Please call 651-266-8989 for specific insurance details.**

Building Inspectors are in the office for inspection requests between 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM, Monday - Friday.  
Phone number is 651-266-9002.

To Contact Plan Examiners, call 651-266-9007

Permit Fee Information can be obtained by calling 651-266-8989, Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

**Visit our Web Site at [www.stpaul.gov/dsi](http://www.stpaul.gov/dsi)**