

City of Mounds View, Minnesota

2401 Highway 10, Mounds View, MN 55112-1499
(763) 717-4020 * Fax: (763) 717-4019

Fence Information Sheet

This handout provides information to assist you in installing fences in the City of Mounds View.

1. Height Limits:

- 48" (4 foot tall) fences are permitted on any part of a lot, except that in the sight triangle, the fence must be of open material such as chain link and openings in the wire mesh should not be less than 1-5/8 inches nor more than 2-1/4 inches.

The "sight triangle" is an area at street intersections where obstructions must be limited so drivers are able to see other motorists who are turning. The sight triangle is formed by starting at the point where the property lines abutting intersecting street right of ways meet, measuring thirty feet from that corner point along both property lines and then connecting the two outlying points to form a triangle. Refer to diagram #1 on the back of this sheet.*

- 96" (8 foot tall) fences are permitted in the side and rear yards, behind a line extending to the side property lines from the face of the principal building
- If the fence is part of a retaining wall, taking the average height between the downhill grade and the uphill grade, and then measuring to the top of the fence determines the fence height.

2. Construction: Fences must be constructed so the surface facing adjoining properties or public rights-of-way shall be of finished construction (or, the "nicer" side should face neighboring properties).

- ### 3. Placement: Fences must be placed on the applicant's property. The fence is not to be installed directly over the property line. The department recommends that you locate your property pins to determine where your property lines are located.

You may need to rent a metal detector to assist you in finding the property pins. You can also have a surveyor create a survey of your property if there are no pins or you cannot locate the pins.

Permit Requirements and Procedures

Submitting a Plan: You will need to provide to the City a plan showing your lot lines, any existing structures, and the location of the proposed fence. You need to draw this plan to scale and mark dimensions on the plan. You will also need to fill out a building permit application or zoning permit application depending on the height of the fence. If the fence is more than 6 feet in height, we also need a structural diagram of how the fence will be built to verify conformance with Building Code requirements. If you are having a contractor do the work, the contractor must be licensed with the State of Minnesota.

You will need to prepare a diagram similar to these with the appropriate dimensions and sizes to submit with your building permit application.

Plan Review: If the fence is over 6 feet tall, the plan will be reviewed by the building official to check that it's structural design meets Building Code requirements.

Permit Issuance: After the plans have been approved, the City will call you to let you know that the permit is ready to be picked up. You will need to pay the permit fees if you have not already done so and get a copy of the permit from our office before work begins.

Inspections:

- For fences at 6 feet or less in height, only a final inspection is needed.
- For fences more than 6 feet in height, an inspection of the post holes and the size of the posts is needed before any concrete is poured or the posts are buried to make sure there is sufficient anchoring to resist wind loads, etc. A final inspection is also needed.

You need to call for an inspection when you are at each of these steps. You need to call at least 48 hours prior to when you want the inspection.

CALL FOR INSPECTIONS: (763) 717-4020

When you call us, please make sure you tell us:

- your name
- address of the property
- type of inspection needed
- building permit #
- daytime telephone #

Please remember if you are doing digging of any kind, call Gopher State One Call for utility locations at (651) 454-0002 or MN toll free at 1-800-252-1166. This is not an option—It's the law!

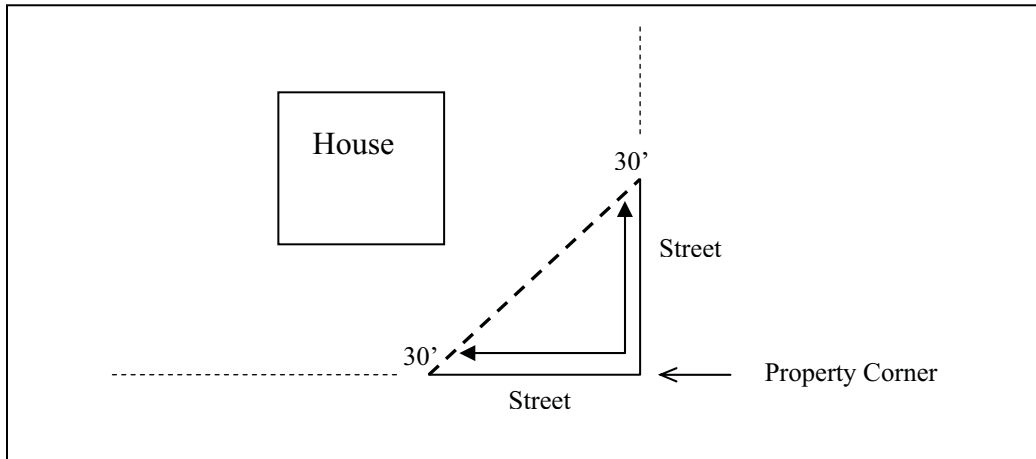
Questions?

If you have questions about the information in this handout, please contact the City Planner at (763) 717-4022 or the Community Development Administrative Assistant (763) 717-4020. If you have questions about constructing a fence over 6 feet tall, please contact the Building Official at (763) 717-4024. You can also e-mail your questions to permits@ci.mounds-view.mn.us.

The City also has permit applications available on our website at www.ci.mounds-view.mn.us

This information is a guide to the most common questions and problems. It is not intended nor shall it be considered a complete set of requirements.

Diagram #1



* Property lines are **not** where the grass meets the street pavement. Most property lines are 10 – 18 feet from the edge of the pavement. The area between the pavement and the lot line is street right of way, commonly referred to as the “boulevard”. If unsure, you should check with the City to determine exactly how far your property line is from the pavement.

