

CITY OF STUART

FENCE PERMIT

INTRODUCTION: *Before you begin construction of a fence, it is very important that you become familiar with the City of Stuart building and zoning regulations. The regulations exist for your protection and they are inspected for your benefit. Confirming property lines, buried utilities, easements, restrictive covenants, or association requirements are strictly the responsibility of the owner and/or contractor.*

A rear yard fence, hedge, or wall shall be set back no less than four feet from the property line, unless the adjacent property owner agrees in writing to less than the four-foot setback. Consent by the adjacent property owner shall be in writing and shall include a legal description of both properties, a description of the location, construction materials, type of fence to be constructed, reasonable arrangements for maintenance and repair of the fence, a method of termination of the agreement, and notarized signature of all owners.

Please allow 5 working days for processing of a permit application. Following review of the application and payment of fees, a permit will be issued and work may begin.

FENCES, WALLS AND PLANTINGS

- Permit required. No person shall erect, alter or relocate any fence, wall or other vision barrier without first obtaining a building permit along with a fee of \$50.00.
- Front and side yards adjacent to a street shall be considered front yards and fences shall not exceed 48-inches in height. The fence shall stop 2 feet from the sidewalk or no less than 2 feet from the front property line. On **front** yards, fences may not be more than 75% solid.
- In **side and rear yards**, opaque and/or solid fences or walls are permitted and shall not exceed 6 feet in height. The fence shall stop no less than 4 feet from the side and rear property lines.
- No fence shall be constructed within four feet of an alley right-of-way.
- No hedge, landscape planting or other vegetation shall be permitted which impedes vision greater than fifty percent of an imaginary plane, perpendicular to the street, extending the full depth of the front yard and vertically from a height of 3 feet to 10 feet.
- Every fence hereafter erected shall be done in the following manner: posts, supporting rails and other such supporting elements shall face the property on which the fence is located.
- All fences shall adhere to the requirements for visibility at intersections.
- Provide 3 feet of space around an electrical cabinet in your yard to allow maintenance. Allow 10 feet in front of the cabinet door.
- Fences placed in a drainage easement must not inhibit the flow of water. The fence shall be raised at least 3 inches above the ground, unless it is chain link.
- It is unlawful for a person to use barbed wire or electric fences to enclose land within the City limits without the written consent of the Council unless such land consists of 10 acres or more and is used as agricultural land.

VISIBILITY AT INTERSECTIONS. No fence, wall, shrubbery, earthen berm, sign, billboard, or other obstruction to vision shall be permitted which serves to obstruct vision between a height of 3 feet and 10 feet on any corner lot within a triangle of 25 feet formed by intersecting street right-of-way lines, or in the case of interior lots within a triangle of 25 feet formed by intersecting driveway edge and right-of-way lines.

IOWA ONE CALL 1-800-292-8989 or 811 provides contractors, homeowners, and others who may excavate, dig or trench with locating and marking underground facilities. Iowa law states that if you are excavating, including digging, you must call Iowa One Call at least 48 hours in advance (of your digging) in order to minimize the risk of damaging any type of underground facilities (electric, gas, telecommunications, cable television, water and sewer).

Additional information and further explanation may be obtained by contacting Veenstra & Kimm at 515-850-2980.