

BZ Basics

Building and Zoning Rules for Fences

“Good fences make good neighbors.” The most notable use of the quote in English Literature belongs to Robert Frost who used the line in his poem “Mending Wall.” In the Building and Zoning Department we hope you want a fence to mark your property lines and keep your small children, pets and property safe and secure.

Pipestone city code has very specific rules for fencing. Location of alley ways, easements, shape of your lot and access to public utilities will determine where you can install your fence. That means each and every fence project will more than likely be different. Some guidance about residential fences:

- Call or stop by the Building and Zoning Office. We'll try to answer any and all your questions
- ALWAYS call 811 and get the underground utilities marked prior to digging
- Don't guess at the location of property lines. The last thing you need is to have to move a fence 1 foot because you placed it on your neighbor's property.
- Maximum height for residential fences is 6 feet
- Barbed wire and electric fences are not allowed in residential areas
- Fence posts face inward, “good side” of the fence faces outward
- Fences cannot obstruct drainage
- Fencing on corner lots can be tricky. At no time can a fence obstruct visibility of traffic.

I hope this answers a few of your questions. Don't hesitate to call, let's get it right the first time.