

GUIDELINES FOR BUILDING A FENCE

SOME IMPORTANT THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW FIRST.....

- * a building permit is required;
- * submit copy of survey of property (plot plan) clearly showing location of proposed fence;
- * if the fence is a privacy fence (more than 50% solid), also submit sketch of a section of fence with dimensions, including height to top of posts and width of boards plus width of space between boards;
- * fee is \$39.

Typical fences permitted in front yards are split rail, wrought iron or equally spaced picket, not to exceed a height of 4 feet to the top of the posts. Pickets shall be no more than 6" wide and no more than one (1) supporting rail, in addition to the bottom rail, is permitted for each 18" in height. No strictly functional fences such as chain link are permitted in a front yard. Some properties are subject to private covenants that restrict fence types or disallow fences altogether. The Township does not participate in or enforce such restrictions, but you should check to see if any apply to your property.

The unfinished side (with posts and stringers) of a fence must face toward the structure or area that it is intended to enclose or screen.

No fences, except **INVISIBLE FENCES**, are permitted in the street right-of-way upon issuance of a **Street Opening Permit** and execution of an **Indemnification Agreement** relieving the Township of any responsibility for damage. No permit is required if located anywhere else on the lot. The street right-of-way is typically 13 feet back from the rear edge of the curb.

Fences in the side and rear yards are limited to 6 feet in height. With the exception of privacy fences, all fences are permitted up to the property line. See reverse side for illustration of yards.

PRIVACY FENCES... are not permitted in the required front or side yards. They are permitted in the buildable area of the lot, in the required rear yard and along the rear lot line, but they must not encroach into the required side yard. Height limit is 6 feet. See illustration below for privacy versus non-privacy fence. commercial lattice type fences are considered privacy fences.

*An Application for **Fence Permit** or **Street Opening Permit** may be obtained Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Please call 412.831.9000 if you have any questions.*

