



**Building Safety & Zoning
Department**
PO Box 477, 106 Jones Street
Watertown WI 53094
(920) 262-4060
www.ci.watertown.wi.us

FENCE PERMIT

Fee: \$10.00

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Permit #	_____
Date:	_____
Parcel #	_____
Cash/Check #:	_____
Receipt #	_____
Received by:	_____

Address: _____

Owner (Please Print): _____

Owner Signature: _____

Phone #: _____ **Owner Email:** _____

Applicant/Contractor Signature: _____

*I verify that the information on this form is complete and accurate.

Type of Lot: Corner Lot Interior Lot

***Type of Fence:**

- Wood Chain link Preformed Concrete Block Stone Concrete
 Plastic/Vinyl Wrought Iron Wire mesh Temporary fence Brick

*** Lot stakes established by (check one):**

Owner or Plat of survey (please attach copy)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

*A drawing of your property showing fence placement & dimensions is required upon application.

* Please check for deed restrictions/subdivision covenants and EASEMENTS before installing fence.

*You must locate all property stakes before installing fence.

*Contact Diggers Hotline at 1-800-242-8511 BEFORE digging.

***** A final inspection is required. Please call our office when the installation is complete. Lot stakes must be visible.**

Inspector signature: _____

Final Inspection Completed on: _____

Initials: _____

§ 550-123. Fencing standards.

A. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to regulate the materials, location, height and maintenance of fencing, landscaping walls and decorative posts in order to prevent the creation of nuisances and to promote the general welfare of the public. In all zoning districts fences and landscape walls are permitted only in the manner outlined below.¹

B. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

FENCE — An enclosed barrier consisting of wood, stone or metal intended to prevent ingress or egress.

LANDSCAPE WALL — A vertical structure or partition that encloses an area or separates two areas.

C. Applicability. The requirements of this section apply to all fencing, landscape walls and decorative posts equal to, or exceeding, 30 inches in height, for all land uses and activities.

D. Permit required. No fence or wall shall be installed without first obtaining a permit. Each application for a permit shall be accompanied by the fee in the amount stated in § 550-157.

E. Standards.

(1) Materials.

(a) Residential districts. Acceptable materials for constructing fencing, landscape walls and decorative posts include wood, stone, preformed concrete block, concrete, brick, wrought iron, chain link, and wire mesh, except that wire mesh fencing is not permitted within required front yard or street yard setbacks. Any fence within a street yard, including along property lines that intersect a right-of-way, shall be a maximum of 60% opaque.

(b) Nonresidential districts. Acceptable materials for constructing fencing, landscape walls and decorative posts include wood, stone, preformed concrete block, concrete, brick, wrought iron, chain link, and wire mesh. Except for industrial security fences, barbed wire fencing shall not be permitted. Any fence within a street yard, including along property lines that intersect a right-of-way, shall be a maximum of 60% opaque. Industrial security fencing shall be an open-type fence (e.g., chain link, woven wire, or wrought iron) and may be topped with barbed wire.

1. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II).

- (c) Temporary fencing. Temporary fencing, including the use of wood or plastic snow fences for the purposes of limiting snow drifting between November 1 and April 1, protection of excavation and construction sites, and the protection of plants during grading and construction and during special events, is permitted for up to 60 consecutive days.
 - (d) Snow fences. Snow fences constructed of wood and wire and/or plastic shall be permitted only as temporary fences.
- (2) Location.
- (a) On all properties, no fence, landscape wall or decorative post shall be located closer than two feet to the front yard or street yard property line. Fences may be located on any property line abutting a side or rear yard. The property owner is responsible for finding and exposing or establishing through a survey that corner location (property/lot stakes).
 - (b) No fence, landscape wall or decorative post which obstructs sight lines over 2.5 feet in height above the survey of the roadbed shall be allowed in a traffic visibility triangle, per § 550-106B(1).
- (3) Maximum height. The maximum height of any fence, landscape wall or decorative post shall be the following:
- (a) Fences in excess of 36 inches tall shall not be permitted within a front yard setback nor in any location in a front yard that is closer to the street than the building;²
 - (b) Eight feet when located on any residentially zoned property but not within a required front yard setback or a required street yard setback; and
 - (c) Ten feet when located on any nonresidentially zoned property but not within a required front yard or a required street yard.
- (4) Orientation. Any and all fences, landscape walls or decorative posts shall be erected so as to locate visible supports and other structural components toward the subject property.
- (5) Maintenance. Any and all fences, landscape walls or decorative posts shall be maintained in a structurally sound and attractive manner as determined by the Zoning Administrator.
- (6) Swimming pools. Fencing for swimming pools shall be provided per § 550-127.³

2. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II).

3. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II).

- F. Enforcement. Enforcement of this section shall be upon written complaint to the Zoning Administrator, subject to his written order to abate any existing violation within 20 days thereof, prior to any enforcement by citation. Any such order of the Zoning Administrator is subject to the appeals process found in § 550-156D along with the fees in § 550-157.
- G. Nonconforming fences, landscape walls and decorative posts. Fences, landscape walls and decorative posts in existence at the time of adoption of this chapter shall be considered legal nonconforming except for maintenance standards contained in Subsection E(5) above.