

Residential Fence Guidelines



The City of Whitehorse regulates the maximum height of fences in all areas of the City. This handout is for residential fences only. For all other zones, refer to Section 5 of the Zoning Bylaw.

Permits: Permits are not required to build a fence.

Style: The City does not regulate the design of fences, materials used, which way the “good side” faces, or the cost breakdown between neighbours. The Zoning Bylaw does, however, require that fence and wall materials be consistent with the character of the zone in which they are located. Chain link fencing over 1.2 m and barbed wire fencing are not permitted in conjunction with residential uses.

Height: The diagram below outlines the maximum permitted fence height for various locations on a residential lot. Fences in the **front yard** cannot exceed 1.2 m (4 ft). Fences in the **interior side and rear yard** cannot exceed 2.0 m (6 ½ ft). Fence height on a **corner lot** is limited to 1.2 m (4 ft) in the front yard and 1.8 m (6 ft) in the exterior side yard, provided the top 0.3 m (1 ft) is at least 25% transparent (such as lattice).

Location: Fences may be built up to the property line. To confirm where your side, rear and front property lines are located, refer to a legal survey of your property. Fences are not permitted to be built on City property (boulevard area). The fence builder is responsible to ensure that the fence is built entirely on the property.

Drainage: Your fence should not impede, obstruct or alter the flow of surface water drainage unless it is a required retaining wall. The Zoning Bylaw does not regulate the cost breakdown between neighbours where retaining walls are needed. Where a fence is located on top of a retaining wall the height of the fence must be measured from the base of the retaining wall.

Call Before You Dig! Call ATCO Electric Yukon at **633-7000** to check for buried electrical cables.

This information is intended as a general guide only. For questions, please contact *Land & Building Services* at **(867) 668-8340** or email **development@whitehorse.ca**.

