

CITY OF YOUNGSTOWN RESIDENTIAL FENCING FAQ

(Last Updated 07/08/2020)



Q: Do I need a permit to build a fence?

A: The addition of a fence is a residential alteration that requires the property owner to obtain a permit. However, minor repairs and maintenance do not require a permit.

Q: What is the permit application fee?

A: The permit application fee is \$10.00.

Q: How long does the permit process take?

A: The permit process can take 1-3 weeks. Compliance with the permit requirements will expedite the review and approval process.

Q: What else do I need to submit with my permit?

A: Your permit application must include:

- The completed application;
- A \$10.00 check or money order made payable to the City of Youngstown; and
- A site plan (or drawing) of the proposed fence.

Q: How detailed does the site plan need to be?

A: The drawing should be a to-scale drawing or photograph of your property that demonstrates where the proposed fence is being constructed. You can use the template site plan attached to the Residential Fencing Permit Application.

Q: Is there a setback requirement?

A: For the front yard, there is a six feet setback from the sidewalk. In other areas, you may build your fence up to the property line.

Q: What if I own a corner lot?

A: If you own a corner lot, you are encouraged to call the City of Youngstown's Zoning Department to discuss the setback requirements for your fence.

Q: Who is responsible for the property lines?

A: Please note that you are responsible for knowing your property's boundaries. You are encouraged to hire a surveyor if you are not sure of where your property lines are located.

CITY OF YOUNGSTOWN RESIDENTIAL FENCING FAQ

(Last Updated 07/08/2020)



Q: How tall can my fence be?

A: Your fence may be up to three feet tall in your front yard, going 25 feet back from the street. Once you are 25 feet back from the street, your fence may be a maximum of six feet tall.

Q: What materials can I use to construct my fence?

A: You may use wood (painted or stained), brick, wrought-iron or decorative metal (e.g. chain link), stone (natural or simulated), or concrete masonry units (finished).

Q: Are there other design requirements to construct my fence?

A: Yes. Your fence posts cannot be more than 25 feet apart. The fence posts must also face inward towards the property being fenced.

Q: What if my fence differs from any of the above requirements?

A: You can apply for a variance if your proposed fence does not meet the above-described requirements. A hearing will then be held to determine whether such a variance should be granted. Please call the Zoning Department to obtain the form to apply for this variance.

Q: Do I also need a permit from Mahoning County's Building Department?

A: No, unless your fence is taller than six feet (which also requires a variance). But, **you or your contractor should call 811 before construction begins.**