



# Fence Regulations

## *Informational Handout*

The following information is provided as a general guide to assist property owners. For more specific information regarding fence requirements, please contact the Planning Division at 952-882-2660.

### **Permits**

Fences that are six (6) feet in height or shorter do not require a permit. All code requirements apply even if a permit is not required.

### **Height**

Except in front yard areas, fences may be up to six (6) feet in height. The height of the fence may extend up to eight (8) feet in height along lot lines that adjoin a county or state designated highway with a building permit. Fences extending across front yards must not exceed four (4) feet in height and shall be at least seventy-five (75) percent open space for passage of air and light.

### **Location**

Fences must be located entirely on your private property. It is the responsibility of the property owner to verify the exact location of the property lines before installing a fence. Fence location must also comply with the following:

- All fences must be constructed to allow utility company personnel access to utility meters on the property
- Fences shall not be located or constructed in a manner that would block or alter drainage patterns or restrict access to pond and easements
- Where sidewalks or trails exist or are planned for the future, a three (3) foot setback from the right-of-way line along arterial or collector streets is required
- Fences shall not obstruct traffic view and shall not be placed in the minimum sight triangle. The triangle area is calculated by measuring a distance of 50 feet along each street curb or edge and connecting a straight line to join (see illustration on back).

### **Construction Standards**

Fences must be constructed in a professional, workmanlike manner of materials that are designed for permanent outdoor fences.

Acceptable materials include:

- Decay-resistant stockade or board on board wood
- Brick or fieldstone
- Wrought iron
- Vinyl
- Chain link with a minimum 9 gauge thickness and a top rail

Materials such as chicken wire, barbed or electric wire, rope, cable, timbers, pallets, or other materials intended for other purposes are not allowed. All fencing and posts must be constructed so that the finished or decorative side faces outside towards the adjacent property.

Your property may be located in a development or neighborhood that is subject to private restrictive covenants that could include certain fencing standards. The City does not enforce these private restrictions but you should verify whether or not your proposed fence complies with the requirements for your development by contacting your homeowner's association or obtaining a copy of the restrictive covenants from the Scott County Land Records Department.

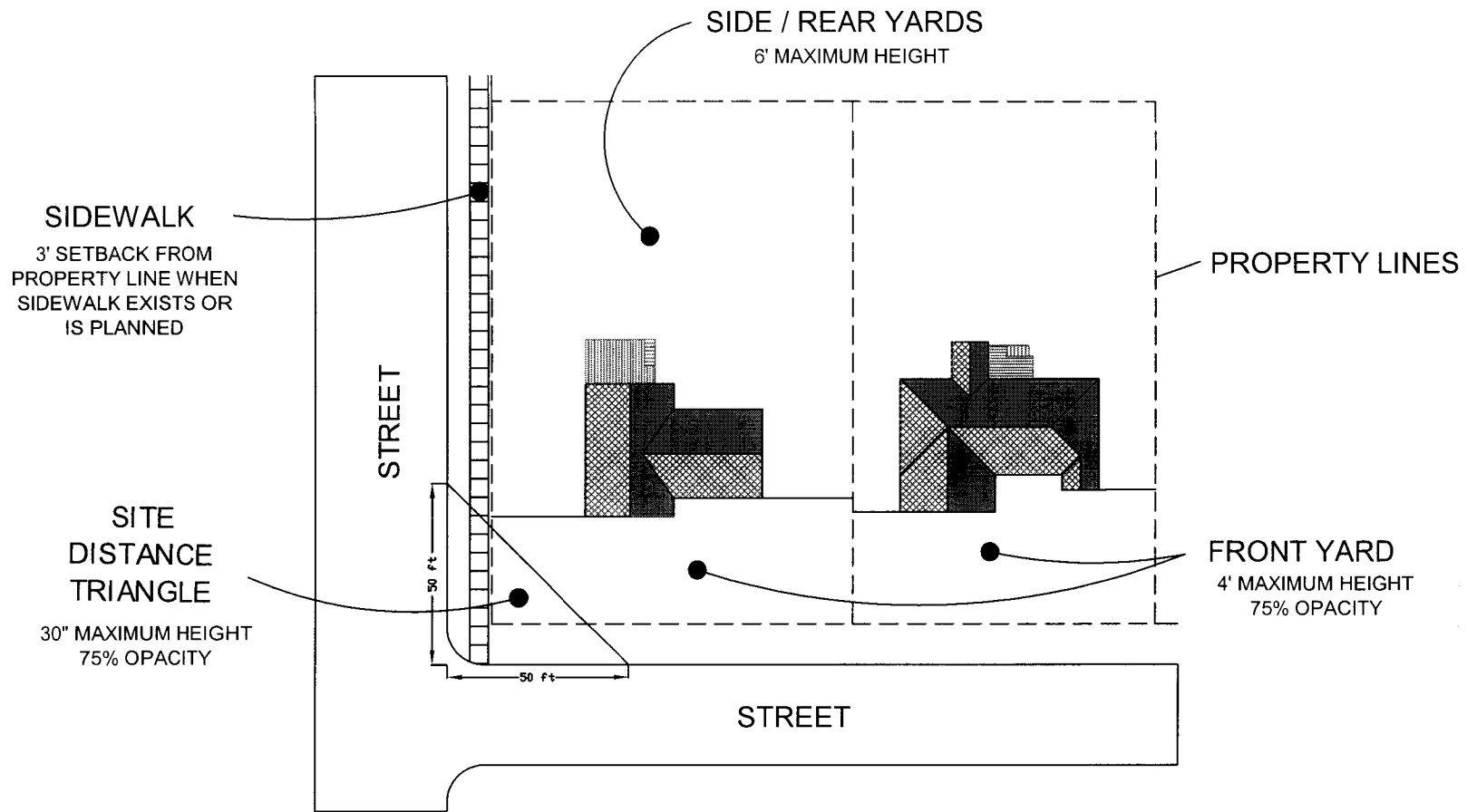
### **Maintenance**

All fences must be maintained on both sides and remain in a condition of good repair. Materials used to repair and maintain fences must be consistent with the existing materials and color. The property owner is responsible for maintaining the area between the property line and the fence.

### **BEFORE DIGGING, CALL GOPHER STATE ONE AT 811**

The property owner is responsible for verifying that there are no conflicts with utilities, both public and private, prior to installation of fencing.

**PLEASE REFER TO BACK OF SHEET  
FOR ILLUSTRATIONS**



Permissible fence locations and heights, as established by the zoning ordinance, are illustrated on the above diagram.