



## Permit Guide for Fences and Walls

Department of Growth Management

February 2012

**A building permit is required if the building material consists of anything other than wood, chain link, vinyl, or wrought iron. All fences shall be constructed in compliance with the Okaloosa County Land Development Code, Ordinance 91-1, as amended by Ordinance 11-06, Section 2.21.05.4 - Fences, and Section 6.03.15 - Clear Visibility Triangle.**

### **Fencing Requirements:**

1. Fences: Fences are permitted in any zoning district subject to the following restrictions.
  - a. Fences may be installed or constructed along or within any property line.
  - b. Fences must be constructed using customary fencing materials such as wood, metal, wire, or masonry.
  - c. Use of barbed wire, razor wire, or chicken wire is prohibited in residential districts.
  - d. Fences shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height.
  - e. No fence shall be placed across any public right-of-way or public easement unless permission is granted by the agency of jurisdiction.
  - f. Certain uses may be subject to state fencing laws including, but not be limited to: game preserves (s. [379.302](#), F.S.); open pits (s. [768.10](#), F.S.); waste disposal (s. [62-701](#), FAC); junkyards (s. [339.241](#), F.S.); swimming pools ([Ch. 515](#), F.S.); livestock fences ([Ch. 588](#), F.S.).

**Note:** Exception for Okaloosa Island. On Okaloosa Island, fences erected or constructed within the street front setback line shall not be over 42 inches. Where other fences are erected or constructed on the property lines inside the setbacks, they may be any reasonable height consistent with construction on the property. No fence shall be maintained more than 25 feet of any street intersection so as not to interfere with traffic visibility around the corner.

2. If the proposed fence is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area (flood zone) additional requirements shall be met. Please contact the Department of Growth Management at 850-689-5080.
3. If the property has any easements and the easement will be built upon, the Public Works Department must determine whether the easement is for a public or private utility.
  - a. If the easement is for a public utility, the Public Works Department must approve the project prior to a building permit being issued. An Application for Easement Encroachment, signed by the property owner, must be submitted with an extra survey or site plan to the Public Works Department.
  - b. If the easement is for a private utility, the property owner must contact and seek approval from the private utility.

### **Building Permit Requirements:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Building Permit Application. The application must be fully completed, signed, and notarized.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Proof of property ownership. This can be a recorded deed, closing statement, or property tax information.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Three copies of the Certified Survey or Site Plan.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Two sets of construction plans. The construction plans must be certified, signed, and sealed by a Florida-registered design professional (architect or engineer)

**NOTE: Construction Plans are only required when the “fence” is a solid wall construction with footers. For Commercial NOTE:** If the fence is located in the northern portion of Okaloosa County, **three sets** of construction plans are required. Fire review will be performed in the Growth Management Department.

For further information, please contact one of our offices:

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