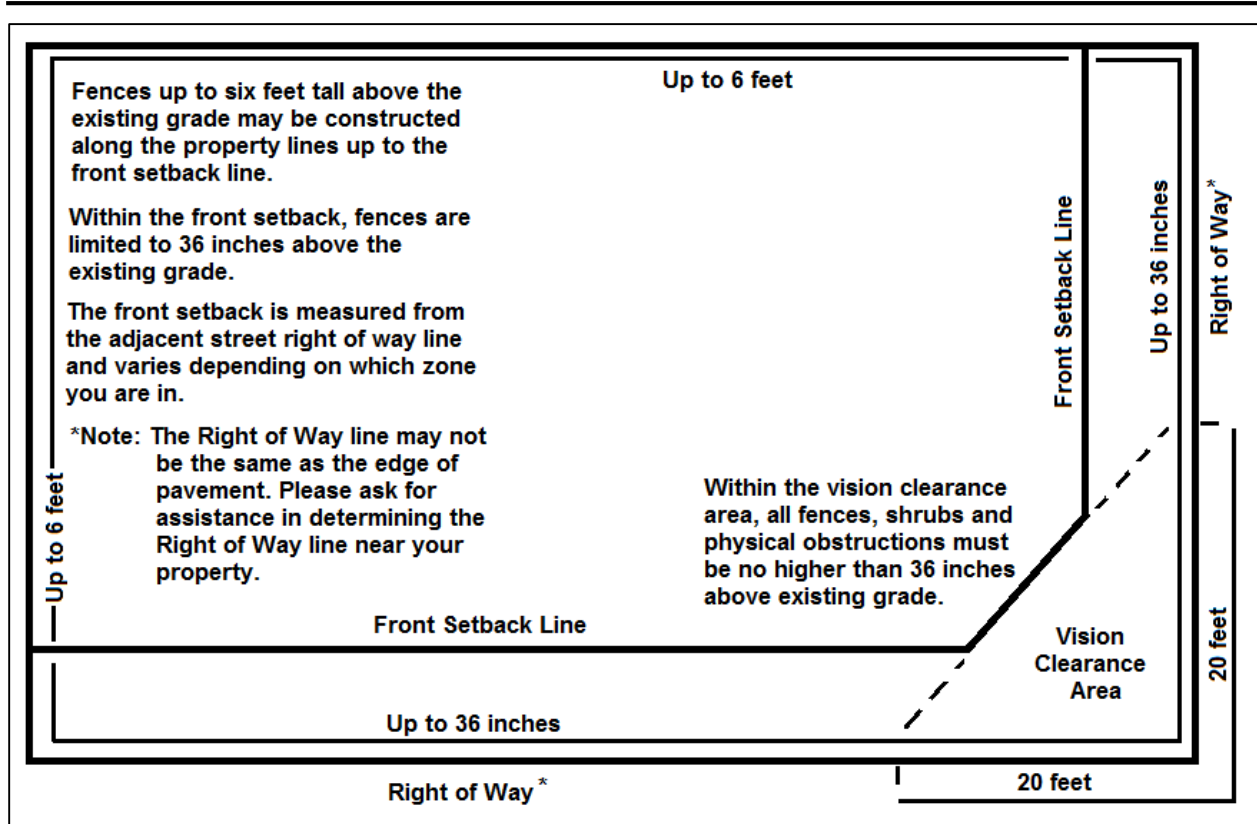


Where Can I Build a Fence?



The Height of Your Fence Depends on Where It is

Fences may be constructed anywhere on a lot and along the property lines.

Fences are limited in height based on where they are located on your lot. Fences that are outside of the front yard setback and away from road intersections can be up to six feet in height above the existing grade.

For All Lots: Fences that are inside the front yard setback are limited to 36 inches above the existing grade except for open rail fences which may be 48 inches above the existing grade. (See Gig Harbor Municipal Code GHMC 17.99.340)

Additionally for Corner Lots: The vision clearance area is the area on a corner lot adjacent to a roadway intersection. This triangle is measured from the corner of the lot next to where the streets intersect and extends 20 feet along your property line in either direction. Within this triangle, all fences, shrubs and other physical obstructions are limited to 36 inches in height above the existing grade.

These setbacks and the vision clearance area are meant to allow drivers to see oncoming traffic at intersections and coming out of driveways.

Materials

You may construct your fence from wood, wrought iron, brick, stone or concrete block (CMU). Smooth-faced concrete block must have a veneer finish on the side visible to the public’s view. Other materials which have the general appearance and visual quality of approved fence materials may be approved by the Planning director.

In commercial areas or recreation centers in residential areas, black, dark brown or other dark-toned, vinyl-coated chain link attached to wood posts and rails is permitted. Standard chain link fencing including steel posts and rails is permitted only in areas outside of designated activity centers. Standard chain link fencing may not be visible from any city right of way, waterway, or designated public spaces. Wherever standard chain link fencing is proposed, the City encourages black-coated, dark brown or dark-toned, coated chain link fencing with matching posts and rails.

You may not use plywood or composite board to build your fence.

Notes

Property Address: _____

Zone: _____

Front Yard Setback: _____

Is a vision clearance area required? _____

Client Assistance Memos are not intended to replace the Gig Harbor Municipal Code. Should you have any questions regarding this information please call the Planner of the Day at (253) 851-6170.