

**City of La Porte  
Planning Department  
Inspection Division**

**FENCING POLICY**

Fences:

- No fences, structures, grading or barrier hedges shall be permitted within any front yard areas except in the case of large lot (1 acres or larger) residential; -OR- in the case of lots with a front yard directly adjacent to the shoreline of Galveston Bay as provided in Section 106-792.
- In the case of large lot residential lots, 8' perimeter fences are permitted as an accessory use. In the case of lots with a front yard directly adjacent to the shoreline of Galveston Bay, 4' front yard fences are permitted parallel and adjacent to the side lot lines. However, such fences shall be permitted on the front line adjacent to Galveston Bay, and shall only be constituted of chain link. These exceptions do not permit structures, grading or barrier hedges.
- As per Section 106-796 Barbed wire fences shall not be permitted, used or constructed except in industrial districts or to control livestock.
- Electric fences are permitted only for single family dwellings and for the purpose of erecting an enclosure to restrain the movement of dogs and /or livestock as per City Zoning Ord. Sec. 106-799.
- Within side and rear yards, fences of not higher than 8' including the 6" rot boards and walls 42" high or less shall be permitted.
- As per Section 106-795 both sides of a fence shall be maintained in good condition by the owner(s) of the fence and grass/ground cover adjoining the fence must be mowed and the weeds removed on a regular basis.
- Allowable fencing materials as of this date include (\*):
  - a) Wood pickets
  - b) Chain link
  - c) Masonry
  - d) Wrought iron
  - e) Vinyl
  - f) Bamboo
- (\*) Any other proposed material for fencing requires prior approval by the Director of Planning and/or Building Official.
- **Contractor/ owner are responsible for ensuring that the proposed fence is installed on their property and does not encroach onto the adjacent property.**

- Any replacement of fence posts (regardless of quantity replaced), shall require a permit.
- Any replacement of 50% or more of the pickets, stringers/runners along one property line shall require a permit.
- Replacement of a gate does not need to be permitted unless posts are replaced, then a permit must be obtained.
- A fence permit must be obtained prior to commencing any fence work.
- Owner/contractor is required to provide a construction grade sketch of the property showing the proposed fence location.
- Call for utility line locates at 1-800-669-8344 and City of La Porte at 281-471-9650 (water and sewer).
- Call for final inspection at 281-470-5130.
- Unload materials on private property, not R-O-W.