

# Harrison Township Code of Ordinances

## Chapter 27: Zoning

### Part 3: General Regulations

#### § 311 Fence and Wall Regulations.

[Ord. 1944, 11/23/2009]

1. All fences and walls shall be kept and maintained in a good state of repair and in harmony with the general beauty of the surrounding neighborhood.

2. A permit for the erection of all fencing, walls, or screens shall be obtained from the Building Inspector prior to the start of any such erection. An application fee in the amount fixed by resolution of the Board of Commissioners shall accompany any permit application(s).<sup>[1]</sup> A drawing showing the proposed location, height, and type of material of any fence, wall or screen shall also be submitted with such application, along with a copy of a survey of property to be fenced. The Building Inspector shall approve or deny such application within 30 days of the submission. Said decision shall be communicated to the applicant in writing.

[1] Editor's Note: The current resolution is on file in the office of the Township Secretary.

3. Except as otherwise provided in the Zoning Code, the maximum permitted height of a fence or wall in the rear or side yard shall be six feet above average ground level. The only fences permitted in the front yard in the residential districts are ornamental, limited to four feet in height. Fences of the chain-link type, generally used for enclosure or containment are not permitted in front yards. A "decorative fence" is defined as one used to beautify or to enrich or improve the appearance of a property and/or structure. Permitted are decorative iron or aluminum fences (with safe picket tops), decorative open wooded or wood picket fences or brick and stone walls or fences or walls combining these materials. In the front yard, fences shall be open and shall have equally spaced open and closed sections of the fence. No opening shall be less than 2 1/2 inches. Enclosure or containment fences are permitted in the side and rear yard only. On a corner lot the side yard abutting the right-of-way shall face out toward neighbor. The finished side of the fence shall face out toward a neighbor.

4. Higher fences between properties in different zoning districts may be authorized, or required by the Zoning Officer as needed for safety and/or protection of the residential environment, as a condition of a building permit. Higher fences along commercial properties may be authorized by the Zoning Hearing Board as a special exception when necessary for effective buffering. Electrified fences and fences with barbed wire are not permitted in residential areas.

5. No fence, wall, screen, tree, shrub or other planting authorized by this Chapter, including front yard fences, screens, walls, trees, shrubs and other plantings, is permitted if it blocks clear view or vision for vehicular traffic.