

Where can I put the fence?

You have the right to construct a fence along the boundary line. This approach requires that you come to terms with your neighbour as it will be jointly owned and maintained. Most often, home owners elect to construct the fence entirely on their own property which provides them with the flexibility to choose the style and height of fence that they desire. In order to ensure that the fence is located properly, it is important to reference a survey which accurately depicts the location of the boundary lines between you and your neighbour (s).

What should I know about installing a fence surrounding a pool?

You must obtain a Pool Permit prior to constructing or erecting a swimming pool. The purpose for this permit is to prevent an accidental drowning by ensuring that small children are unable to climb over your fence from the exterior side. This can be achieved, cost effectively, by using chain link fence with diamonds no large than 3.8cm (1½ inches) in diameter with a minimum height of 1.2 metres (4 feet).

All gates are required to be spring-loaded, self closing and self-latching.

Hot tubs do not require a fence but must be adequately secured by a cover with a locking device and locked when not in use.

For all other information with regards to pools please refer to our pool by-law 2001-059 available on our website at www.selwyntownship.ca.

How can I obtain a survey?

Check your records. Some homeowners may have previously acquired this document during the purchase of a property.

Otherwise, the services of a qualified Land Surveyor should be obtained. A number of services are located in the Yellow Pages. Using the services of a Land Surveyor is the best way to avoid disputes with neighbours.

What if my neighbour and I disagree about the fence?

If the fence is to be constructed along the boundary line, the Line Fences Act provides a mechanism to address disputes between neighbours. Contact the Township office and speak with the Clerk for more information. As an alternative, you may choose to construct the fence entirely on your property, in that context, you would own it and can construct a fence of the type and height (within the limits of the By-law) of your choosing.

Can I get a Variance from the Fence By-law Regulations?

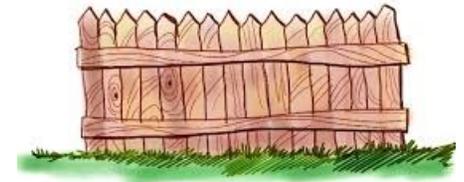
A variance may be authorized by the Chief Building Official, if in his/her opinion the proposed Fence is not causing a visual obstruction to persons or vehicles while entering or exiting a driveway or travelling along a street, lane or sidewalk. The process requires that you make application, provide a detailed site plan and pay a fee of \$100.00. The Variance application can be obtained from our website or by visiting our website www.selwyntownship.ca.

If you require copies of our by law or have any further questions, please contact our Permit Intake Administrator, Jamie Lee Wiltshire at 705-292-9507 or at jlwiltshire@nexicom.net.



What to know when building a fence in Selwyn

Good Fences Make Good Neighbors



Produced by the Township of Selwyn Building Department.

1310 Centre Line
Selwyn, ON

(705) 292-9507
www.selwyntownship.ca

What is a fence? A fence is any structure used to enclose or divide, in whole or in part, a yard or other land to establish a property boundary inclusive of any hedges consisting of a dense lining of bushes or small trees.

What fences are prohibited? No person shall have, erect, construct, maintain or permit to be erected, constructed, or maintained the following : snow fencing as part or in place of a permanent fence, a fence comprised of sheet metal or corrugated metal panels, a fence that contains hazardous materials such as razor wire, barbed wire, or any other sharp projections capable of causing physical injuries to humans, a fence or any attachment to a fence which may be used as a conductor of an electrical current save and except for the purposes of managing livestock as part of an active agricultural facility, a fence erected, which by reason of its location, design or materials, obstructs traffic sightlines or which obstructs or distracts from the visibility or effectiveness or any traffic control device on a public street.

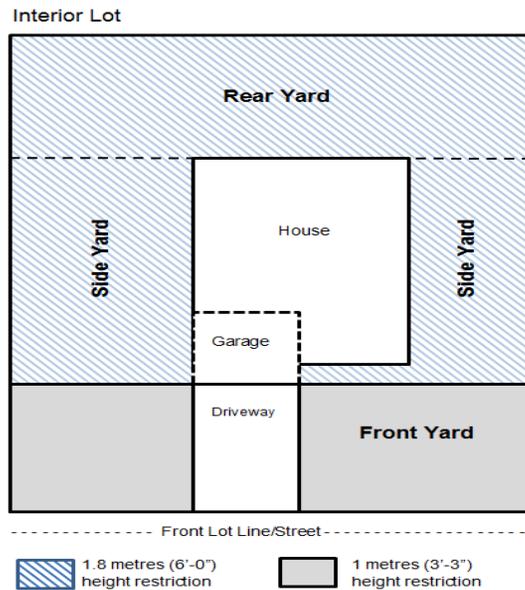
What are the requirements of an allowable fence? The owner of the land on which a fence is erected (installed) shall maintain such fence in a good state of repair to ensure that the fence:

- is structurally sound, plumb and securely anchored,
- is protected by weather-resistant materials,
- components are not broken, rusted, rotten or in a hazardous condition,
- is stained or painted and is maintained free of peeling, and
- does not present an unsightly appearance to the abutting land or neighbourhood and is free of markings or other defacements on the exterior surface.

How is height measured? It is the vertical distance measured from the ground level where the fence posts are embedded to the top of the said fence excluding the post. Where a fence is located on the top of a retaining wall, "height" shall mean the vertical distance measured from the top of the retaining wall to the highest point of the fence excluding the post.

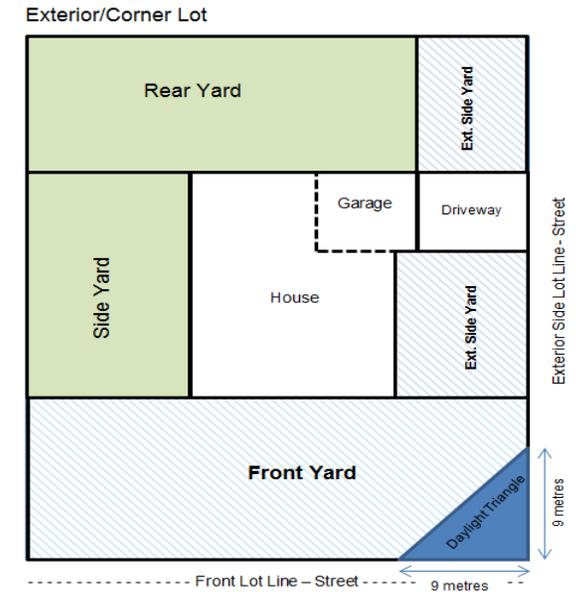
What are the height requirements for fences? Residential zone fences shall be constructed in accordance with the following regulations:

- A fence erected within a rear or side yard shall not exceed a height of 1.8 metres (6'-0")
- A fence erected in a water yard shall not exceed a height of 1.2 metres (4'-0")
- A fence erected to a front or exterior side yard shall not exceed 1 metre (3'-3") in height.



Please Note:

That the lot lines notes on the diagrams represent the property's boundary lines. The sidewalk is not necessarily the lot line. The Township or County may own some landscaped area between your lot line and the sidewalk. Please consult your survey for the location of lot lines.



Height Restrictions:

