

**Locate Property Lines.** Be certain of where your property lines are before you install any fence or dig fence-post holes. Power poles, trees, existing fences and other physical objects do not always indicate or mark true property corners or boundaries. Locate where your front yard ends and the public right-of-way/ boulevard begins, as lots seldom border the street. It is worth the investment to have a registered surveyor or engineer assist with locating property lines. **The City does not provide this service.**

**Neighborhood Considerations.** The City recommends you discuss with adjoining neighbors your intent of installing a fence along any shared property line, and indicate where you intend to install the fence. **The City will not arbitrate neighbor property line disputes, as this is a civil matter between neighbors.** If you find yourself involved in a property line dispute or concern on the location of a fence, you may contact Community Mediation Services at (763) 561-0033 to help resolve any disputes or differences. Community Mediation Services is a non-profit organization that provides low and no-cost mediation services to Northern and Western Hennepin County residents.

**BE SAFE!** Before you dig, please contact Gopher State One-Call at (800) 252-1166 or [[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org)] to help locate and mark underground utility lines. This is a **FREE** service to all residents provided by the local utility companies.

### City Contact Information

Fence Regulations & Enforcement  
Building & Community Standards Dept.  
(763) 569-3473 or (763) 569-3330

Zoning Regulations  
Business & Development Dept.  
(763) 569-3335

Building Permit Requirements  
Building & Community Standards Dept.  
(763) 569-3330

After-Hours or Weekend Reporting of an  
Immediate Safety Hazard  
Police Department  
911 (*Officer Assistance &  
Emergencies*)

This brochure contains general information about fence requirements and is intended as a guide only. Other regulations and requirements may apply.

City codes are available on the city website at  
[www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org](http://www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org)

City of Brooklyn Center  
6301 Shingle Creek Parkway  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430-2199  
Phone: (763) 569-3300  
TTY/Voice: 711  
Fax: (763) 569-3360  
[www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org](http://www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org)

## Residential Fences, Hedges, Retaining Walls



**Proper placement and construction of your fence will assure your fence meets community standards.**

**Permits.** No permit is required for any fence 6-ft. in height or less. However, a building permit is required for:

- ◇ all fences over 6-ft. in height;
- ◇ retaining walls that exceed 4-ft. in height measured from the bottom of the footing;
- ◇ retaining walls less than 4-ft. in height holding back retained soil or other materials.

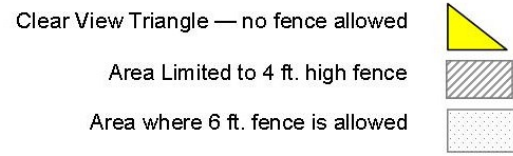
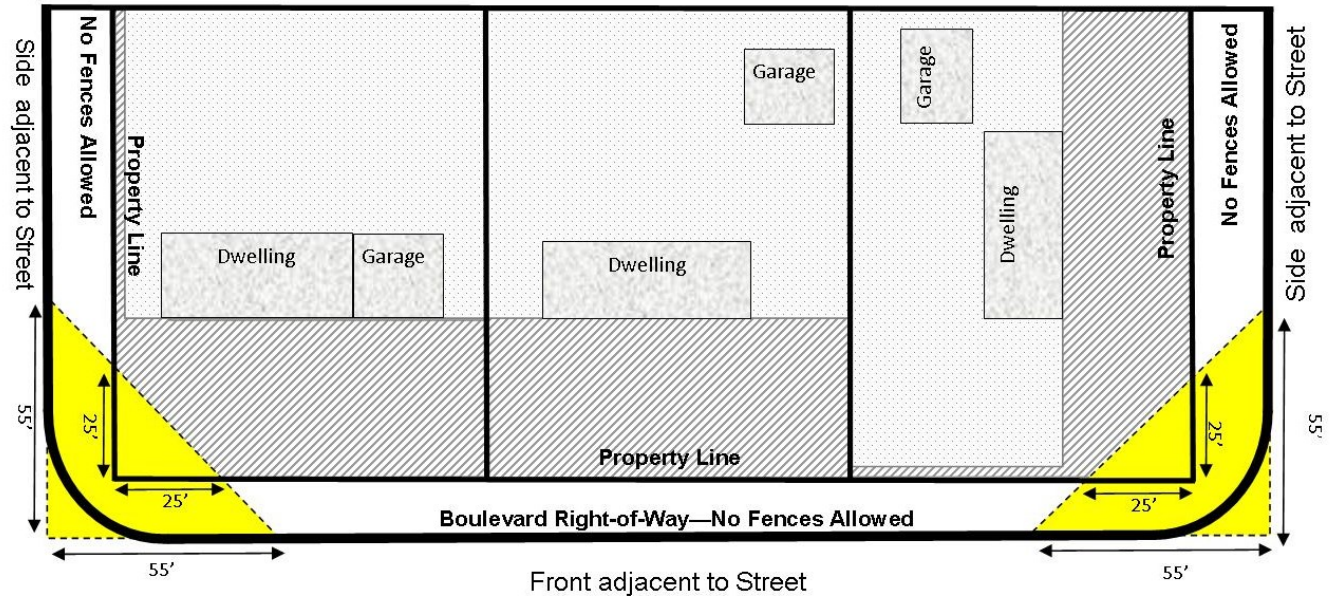
- It is recommended that a fence be located 6 to 12-inches inside the property line in order to provide lawn and maintenance service on both sides of the fence.

- No fence or wall shall be placed in the public right-of-way or street boulevard. This is for safety and for utility/street maintenance.

- The City of Brooklyn Center recommends that the finished side of the fence be placed on the outside.

- Fences or retaining walls should be constructed of durable materials such as rust-resistant metal, masonry, poly-vinyl, pressure treated wood, or wood naturally resistant to decay such as cedar and redwood. *The use of barbed wire, hog/pen wire, or electric fences is not permitted.*

- No fence, hedge, wall, or other safety hazard shall be allowed which creates an unsafe sight obstruction for pedestrian or vehicles. (City Code 35-400.8.a). Refer to the following "Clear-View Triangle" information in this brochure.



**Clear-View Triangle.** On corner lots, fences are not allowed in the clear view or sight triangle, defined as an area bounded by the corner property lines and a straight line joining points along said corner lot lines 25-ft. from their intersection - OR - 55-ft. along the intersecting street curb lines. The above diagram includes a typical corner sight triangle.

Nothing shall be erected, placed, planted, maintained, or allowed to grow which will impede vision between 2.5 ft. to 10 ft. above the center line of the street in the sight triangle. This includes 4-ft. fences or shrubs. (City Code 35-560.)

**Height Limitations.** Opaque fences, hedges, or walls along front yard property lines bordering streets shall not exceed 4-ft. in height, except when located along an interior property line.

Fences, hedges, or walls may exceed 4-ft. A building permit is required when the height of the fence exceeds 6-ft.