

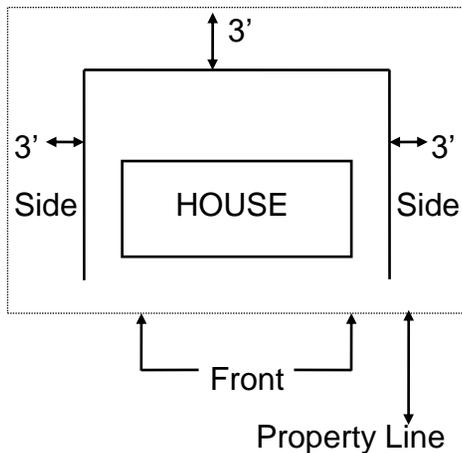
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## ***Important steps for you...***

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### **1.) Make sure your proposed fence meets the following requirements:**

a.) Minimum distance of 3 feet from side and rear lot lines, unless the adjacent owner consents in writing to the entrance upon such owner's land for the purpose of maintaining such fence, including lawn mowing; or a maintenance free fence such as chain link is being installed, in which case the fence may have a minimum setback of 6 inches from the lot lines.



b.) Side and rear yard fences in residential areas shall not be more than 6 feet in height from grade. Front yard fences shall not exceed 4 feet in height from grade. On a corner lot, the owner shall choose one front and the other will be designated the side. (See 3 d. for vision triangle requirements)

## **SECURITY FENCES**

No barbed wire or electrical fences may be erected or maintained within the city; except that barbed tops are permitted in the Heavy Industrial District, on top of fences having a minimum height of 8 feet and a maximum height of 10 feet, including barbs.

**2.) Obtain a permit.** No fence shall be erected or reconstructed within the city until the owner or an authorized agent has obtained a zoning permit from the Zoning Administrator. A detailed sketch of where your fence will be located is necessary, including distances from lot lines and its position in relation to any structure.

### **3.) Construction Requirements.**

a.) No fence shall be installed within a dedicated greenway.

b.) Fences shall not be installed in utility easements designed to convey stormwater drainage, electric distribution, water distribution, or wastewater. The following are exceptions to this regulation:

- Maintenance, repair, or replacement of a fence lawfully installed in a utility easement area prior to 7-23-19.
- Installation of a fence in an allowable portion of a utility

easement that is more than 12 feet wide and where no underground facilities or drainage swales are located.

- Installation of a fence connecting to a lawfully existing fence located in a utility easement, parallel to the property line, and where no drainage swales are located.

Please refer to City of Stoughton Ordinance Section 78-718 (3)(i) for fencing standards in regards to easements.

c.) Fences shall maintain the following clearances required by State Electrical Code and/or Stoughton Utilities:

- Horizontal clearance of 6' from overhead electric conductors.
- Vertical clearance of 8' below overhead electric conductors.
- A 12' clearance from the openable side of ground pad-mounted transformers for utility maintenance operations.
- d.) On corner lots, no fence or planting shall be placed or allowed to grow to a height > 2 ½ feet, measured 10 feet in both directions from the inside corner lot line, forming a triangle. There are similar requirements when adjacent to a driveway.

**4.) Wood fences.** Wood fences shall be installed and maintained with the finish side toward the neighbor (opposite side from posts and cross-members).

**5.) Living fences.** Shall be planted so they may be trimmed without entry onto abutting lands. Species shall determine distances for setback requirements. Trim living fences to maintain said requirements and to keep it off of sidewalks and streets.

**6.) Locate your lot lines.** There should be metal stakes buried at each corner of your lot. In most cases it will be necessary to locate the lot stakes to know exactly where the fence is located on your lot. Talk with your neighbors and/or use a metal detector to help find the stakes. If lot stakes cannot be located, it may be necessary to hire a surveyor. **There is an inspection of the lot stakes required by Planning Staff prior to fence installation.**

**7.) It is advisable to call Diggers hotline 1-800-242-8511 or 811,** to avoid rupturing underground utilities that you may not know are there. A locating company employee and/or local utility employee will come out and mark the location of underground electric, sewer, telephone and cable television lines in your yard at no cost.

**8.) Install posts and fencing according to manufacturer's instructions.** The company you purchase your fence from can supply you with instructions on how best to install your fence. Plant your trees and shrubs as directed by the nursery.

Updated 9/9/19 DW

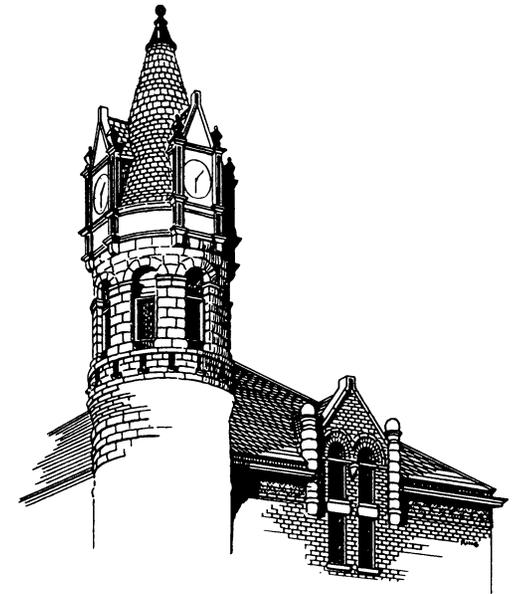
This pamphlet is to be used as general information and is not all inclusive. For any questions regarding your situation, contact the Zoning Administrator at (608)646-0421

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Construction & Alterations Series

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# FENCING



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Department of Planning & Development

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**STOUGHTON, WISCONSIN**