

For more information see:

Mason City Zoning Code  
Title 12 ZONING  
Chapter 16 Zoning Standards  
Section 12-16-3 Fences  
Section 12-6-4 Required Fencing &  
Screening

Mason City Houseing Code  
Title 10 BUILDING REGULATIONS  
Chapter 2 Building Codes  
Article F. Housing Code  
Section 10-2F-7:U

Mason City Public Safety Code  
Title 8 PUBLIC SAFETY  
Chapter 3 General Offenses  
Sectin 8-3-1: Barbed Wire

[www.masoncity.net](http://www.masoncity.net)

City of Mason City

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
CONTACT  
BUILDING INSPECTIONS DIVI-  
SION  
(641)421-3620



CITY OF MASON CITY

BUILDING  
INSPECTIONS  
DIVISION

City Hall  
10 1<sup>st</sup> street N.W.  
Third floor

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### FENCES



### DEFINITION:

A freestanding structure comprised of posts, rails and panels that is designed to restrict movement across a boundary and is comprised of traditional durable building materials such as wood and steel.

### HEIGHT:

Fences constructed in residential areas can be built to a maximum height of 4' in the front yard (typically the front 25' of the lot) and a maximum height of 6' in the side and rear yard. The fence cannot interfere with traffic or pedestrian visibility. For the first 8' to 10' the fence must be either 2' high or contain 75% open space. However, there are height restrictions in other zoning districts.

### TYPE:

A fence can be made of any type material. Barbed wire and electric fences are only allowed in very limited circumstances. Contact the Zoning Administrator at 421-3620 for further information. On privacy fences, the posts must be on the owner's side with the decorative side facing outward from the property being fenced

### LOCATION:

A fence can be located anywhere on a lot, up to a property line. Clear visibility shall be maintained on corner lots above a height of 4', measured from the established curb grade. The visibility zone shall include that part of the corner lot that is within the area bounded by the intersecting street right-of-way lines and a diagonal line intersecting said street right-of-way lines at a distance of 20' from the corner.

### PERMIT:

A building permit is only required to erect a fence over 6' in height in residential, commercial, or industrial areas. Fences over 6' in height require a zoning variance (unless it is located in a Z6 district). This permit may be obtained from the Inspection Services Division.

### **NOTES:**

#### **MAINTENANCE OF FENCES**

**Every fence shall be kept in a good state of repair or removed.**