



City of Arlington
Community and Economic
Development

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 12:00pm
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This Assistance Bulletin only
applies to properties within
Arlington City Limits

www.arlingtonwa.gov
[Arlington Municipal Code](#)

Assistance Bulletin

RESIDENTIAL FENCES

#35

Q: Do I need a permit to build a fence?

A: No. Except for the following conditions:

1. Fence height will be over seven feet in height.
2. Fence will be located within a critical area.
3. Fence will be located within a flood hazard area.

Q: How close to the property line can I place my fence?

A: You may place your fence up to the property line if the following requirements are met:

1. Front yard fences abutting a sidewalk may be a maximum of 42 inches (3.5 feet) in height when within 10 feet of the right-of-way and installed outside of the ultimate right-of-way and sight visibility areas.
2. If the front yard fence is located in the sight visibility area, then a maximum of 30 inches (2.5 feet) is allowed within the site triangle area. The fence may resume allowed heights once clear from this area. (See pg. 2 for Site Triangle Illustration)
3. Side and Rear yard fences may be built on the property line to a height of up to 7 feet (except corner lots need to abide by section (2) above).

Q: How do I measure my fence height?

A: The height of a fence shall be the vertical distance measured from the ground elevation of the finished grade to the highest point of the fence.

Q: How do I know if my fence is on the property line?

A: The city cannot tell you where your property lines are located. For accurate property line information, you will need to contact a professionally licensed Land Surveyor.

Q: Can I put up a chain link fence?

A: Chain link is not an allowed material for fences. Please see [Fence Design Requirements](#) for allowed material types.

Standard Lot Fence:

See pg. 1 for information regarding fence placement

Figure 1: Setback Locations

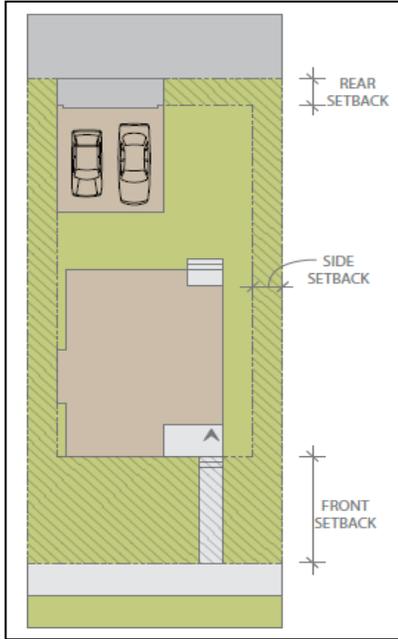
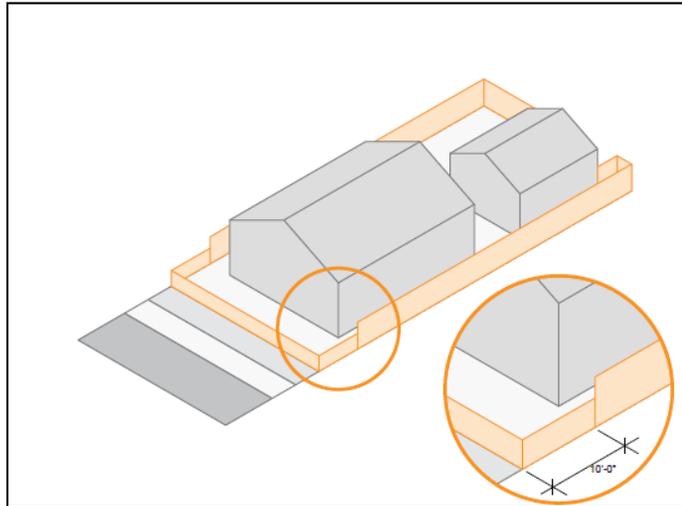


Figure 2: Fence Height and Setback Locations



Corner Lot Fence:

All corner lots must maintain a triangular area free of trees, fences, shrubs, and other physical obstructions taller than 30-inches within the 25-foot site triangle.

Figure 3: Site Visibility Areas (Site Triangle)

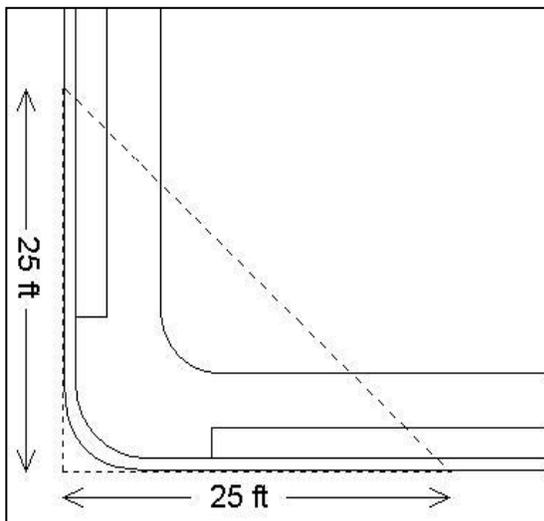
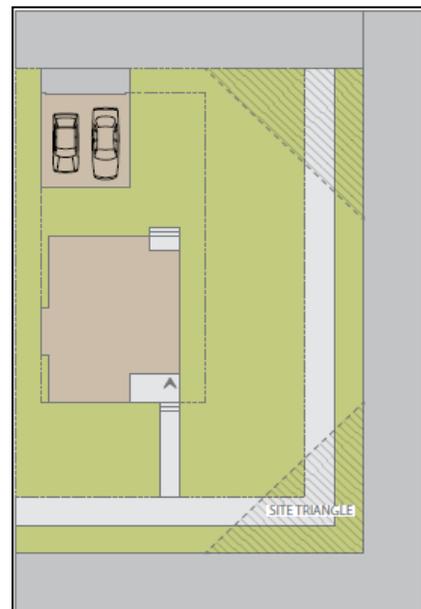


Figure 4: Site Visibility Areas (Site Triangle)



Fence Design Requirements:

1. Fences are required to be constructed of wood, wrought iron (decorative metal), or vinyl.
2. Fence heights and setbacks are governed by [Chapter 20.48 \(Density and Dimensional Regulations\)](#).
3. Both sides of all perimeter fencing shall be architecturally treated.
4. The fence may consist of up to 6 feet opaque, with 1 foot of lattice or other decorative design.

Figure 5: [Table 20.46 - 1](#)

<p>Public and Private Presentation Sides</p>	 <p>Two-sided presentation Public presentation side Private presentation side (house side)</p>	
<p>Wood and Metal fence examples of front yard fence at 42” in Height</p>		
<p>Wood fence example of side or rear yard fence at 6-foot fence with and without 1-foot decorative extension installed</p>		