

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need a permit to build a fence?

Only if you want to build a fence higher than what the Land Use Bylaw allows. (See inside for details.)

What materials can I use to construct my fence?

Wood, brick, stone, concrete, vinyl or metal can be used to build your fence. You can not have a barbwire fence in residential areas. Electric fences are not permitted anywhere in Town.

Where can I build my fence?

A fence may be built along or up to your property line - and must stay within your property limits.

How do I determine my property lines?

Property lines can be determined from a Real Property Report. The best and most accurate method to locate your property lines is to have an Alberta Land Surveyor stake them out.

If my neighbour is building a fence between our properties, do I have to pay half?

That is a matter between you and your neighbours. Cooperation between neighbours is encouraged.

For More Information

Town of Whitecourt Planning and Development Department

5004 52nd Avenue
P.O. Box 509
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N6
Phone: 780-778-2273
Fax: 780-778-2062

Hours of Operation:
Monday to Friday
8:30AM to 4:30PM
(Closed between 12:00 noon
and 12:30PM)

www.whitecourt.ca

ALBERTA 1 CALL
Call before you dig
1-800-242-3447

**Alberta 1 Call will assist you in
locating electric, oil-gas and
communication lines.**



Building a Fence

Keeping you informed.



Fence Regulations

The Town's Land Use Bylaw allows for most fences to be built without permits. If you want to build a fence higher than 1 metre in your front yard or higher than 1.8 metres in your side or backyard, you will need a Development Permit.

Corner lots often require special consideration to ensure good visibility for both vehicle and pedestrian traffic. You are encouraged to meet with the Development Officer to discuss your options.

Fences are permitted in all single-family residential Land Use Districts and may be built up to any property line.

Fence Regulations

Front Yard - Fences in front yards may be a maximum of 1.0 metre above design grade at any point between the front of the house and the property line. (Design grade is the elevation established by the subdivision's engineer to ensure optimal drainage from all properties within the subdivision. Ask at the Planning and Development Department to see your plot plan.) Fences are not allowed on Town owned property.

Rear and Side Yard - Side and rear fences can be built 1.8 metres above the design grade without a Development Permit. If you want to build a fence that is higher than 1.8 metres, you will need a Development Permit.

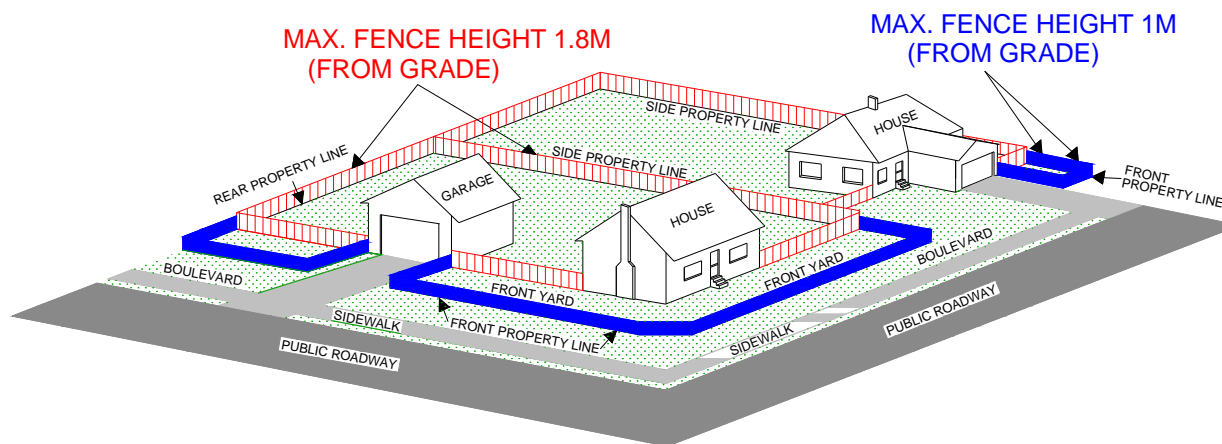
Applying for a Permit

For more information on Development and Building Permits, check the information brochure titled "Applying for Permits," available at the Town Office or on the Town's website at: www.whitecourt.ca

Utility Right of Way

A utility right of way is a registered easement on private land that allows the Town and Utility Companies the right to access the utilities or services that are buried within the right of way. Permanent or portable structures are not permitted to be built within any utility right of way.

For more information, contact the Planning and Development Department at 780-778-2273.



■ MAXIMUM FENCE HEIGHT 1M (FROM GRADE)

▤ MAXIMUM FENCE HEIGHT 1.8M (FROM GRADE)

When in doubt, the Planning and Development Department is here to help!