

Fence Requirements



IN ORDER TO BUILD A FENCE IN THE CITY OF JOHNSTON YOU MUST OBTAIN A PERMIT, PASS AN INSPECTION, AND LOCATE PROPERTY LINES.

OBTAIN A PERMIT

To obtain a permit, you will need the following information:

- Building Permit Application - pick up at our office.
- Site plan showing:
 - An arrow pointing north & labeled N or North
 - Location of fence and gates
 - Type and width of easements
- **After submitting the Building Permit to the city, the Permit Application Review takes a maximum of five (5) working days.**

PROPERTY LINES

- The City of Johnston does not locate property lines.
- The Building Department can provide you with a plat map showing a property's dimensions.

INSPECTIONS

- An inspection is required for fence once it is complete.
- Inspections can typically be scheduled the same day as requested. To schedule, call the Building Permit Technician at (515) 727-7778.



GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Fences cannot be constructed within a public easement unless it has been determined by city staff that the construction of the fence will not affect the intended purpose of the easement. Any construction within public easement is the owner's liability.
2. The face of the fence should be equally attractive on both sides. However, if one side is considered less attractive due to structural design, etc., the less attractive side should face into the lot.
3. A fence may be a maximum height of **6 feet** within the limits of the side and rear yard lines, and a maximum of **4 feet** within the front yard. Corner lots contain 2 front yards; fences extending beyond the building set back line (BSL) must drop to **4 feet**.
4. A fence that extends into the front yard must drop from **6 feet to 4 feet** on corner and non-corner lots.
5. On a corner lot, nothing can be built, placed, planted, or allowed to grow in a manner that impedes vision between the heights of **2.5 feet and 10 feet** within the vision triangle.
6. Barbed or electrified fences are prohibited within any residential (R) district if the property is not being used for agricultural uses.
7. Restrictive covenants are the responsibility of the property owner.
8. A gate is required for maintaining any areas of property not accessible due to construction of fence.
9. Fences in double frontage lots with an arterial street forming the rear property line can be built to the property line. The following streets have been classified as arterial streets by the City of Johnston: NW Beaver Drive, Merle Hay Road, NW 86th Street, NW 100th, NW 70th, NW 62nd, and NW 54th.



City of Johnston
Building Department
6221 Merle Hay Road
PO Box 410
Johnston, IA 50131-0410
Ph: (515) 727-7778
Fax (515) 278-2033

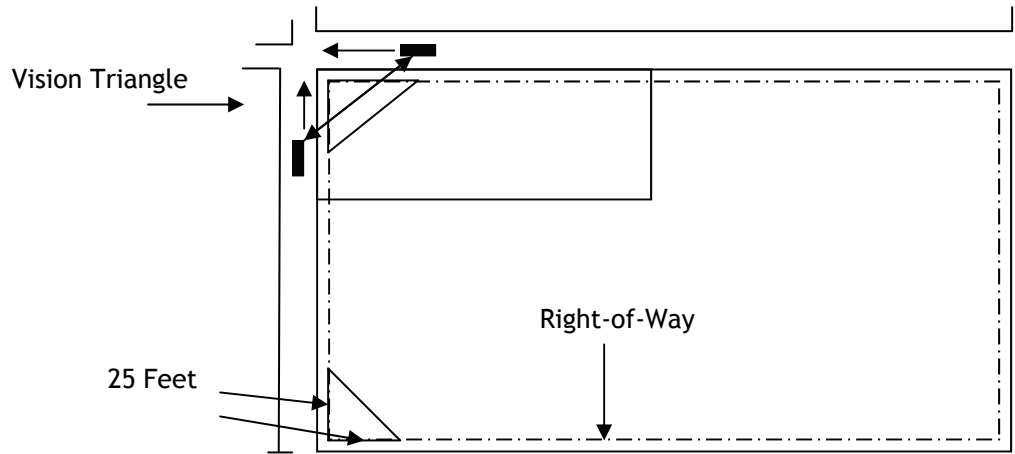
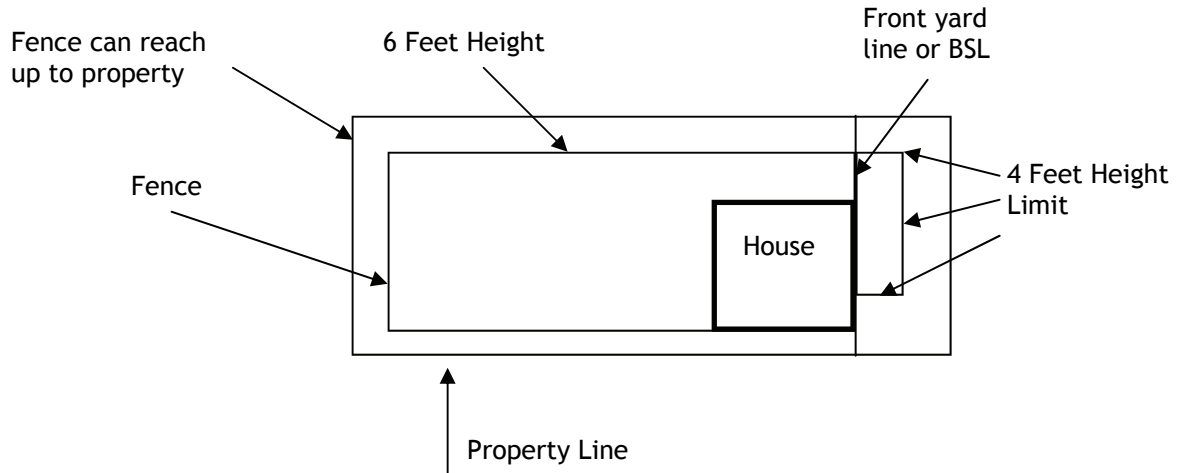
www.cityofjohnston.com
buildingdepartment@ci.johnston.ia.us



Call Before You Dig!
1-800-292-8989

Notification service for locating underground

Sample Site Plan



Sample Site Plan – Corner Lot

