Residential Fences
Installation & Development Requirements

This brochure summarizes key Planning and Building requirements pertaining to the development of Fences in the city and is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Please contact Planning or Building staff, if you have questions particular to your project.

Building a fence within the City?

- Call 811 to have an Underground Service Alert performed. If any utilities are identified in proximity to the proposed fence location, confer with the appropriate utility agency prior to installation.

Have you met the current setbacks and permit requirements?

Fence Setback / Permit Requirements: Before they are constructed, all fence plans must be reviewed and approved for their location, size, and type of material use for construction. The Planning Division checks these structures for their placement and maximum height requirements. The Building Division checks the structure for conformance to the Uniform Building Code and all State mandated requirements.

When do I need a building permit to construct a fence? If your fence is over six feet (6’) in height a building permit is required. Or, if your fence is constructed using an alternative building material (concrete block, brick, etc.) a building permit, is required. To obtain a building permit submit the following fence plan details to the Building Division for a plan check:

- Fence location and side elevation drawings (must be to scale)
- Materials description (concrete block, brick, etc.)
- Engineering is required for block wall fences over 6 feet in height.

Does my fence have to be built with specific material? For the most part no, however, in residential, chain link is not allowed, and if using an alternative building material (concrete block, brick, etc.) to construct a fence, a building permit is required.

How much does a building permit cost? For a fence higher than six feet (6’) the fee is based upon the estimated cost to construct only the portion of fence above six feet (6’). See current City of Woodland Fee Schedule for building permit cost. For a masonry or block type fence, the fee is based upon building valuation (i.e., total construction cost for fence (labor and materials)).

How tall can my fence be in front of my house? The maximum height for a front yard fence is Three feet six inches (3’6”) or forty-two inches (42”) and for the rear yard maximum height is eight fee (8’) building permit required for fences over six feet 6’.

*For a corner lot, what is the required setback for a six-foot (6’) side yard fence? The City requires a minimum five foot (5’) setback for a six foot (6’) (or higher) fence along the side yard.

Can I rebuild a fence that does not meet current standards (i.e., setback, height), if I rebuild it the way it was? No, fences being rebuilt are required to meet all current requirements. However, in some cases where the fence was built before 1949, the fence may be allowed to be rebuilt. Please contact the Planning Division for specifics.
Swimming Pool Fences:

- The swimming pool, or the entire property in which it is located, shall be so walled or fenced as to prevent uncontrolled access by children from the street or adjacent properties; and where located less than 30 feet from any property line shall be screened by a fence or wall not less than six feet in height on the side facing such property line. Said fence or wall shall be constructed so that no object four inches in diameter can pass through.
- The fences surrounding these pools shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching gate. The latch to be at least four feet above ground level.

* Spring Lake Residents, see Attachment A for additional fencing information.

* Spring Lake Corner Lot Requirements: Please note: It is strongly encouraged that corner lot/side yard fences in Spring Lake remain outside of the Public Utility Easement (PUE), which in most cases is 7 to 10 feet in depth as measured from the back of the sidewalk. Corner lot, side yard fences may be relocated to 5 feet from back of sidewalk if no utilities exist within 3 feet of the proposed fence line or as otherwise approved by the City. Owner must call 811 prior to digging. If the City or PG&E need access to the full PUE, fencing removal and/or replacement is at the property owner’s sole expense.

ONLINE RESOURCE:
Woodland Municipal Code, Chapter 17-104-100.

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If you have questions, please call the Community Development Department at (530) 661-5820. Our office is located at 300 1st Street, Woodland, CA 95695
Attachment A

CONDITIONS FOR SPRINGLAKE HOMES

1. All mechanical equipment whether roof mounted or on the round shall be fully screened from view.

2. All antennas shall be placed in building interiors. Satellite dish antennas are prohibited on roofs.

3. Driveway to match existing curb cuts. Encroachment permit requirement for work on right-of-way.

4. Minimum 1 (one) tree per lot required in front yard, 2 trees on corner lots. Landscaping, irrigation and good neighbor fencing shall be completed prior to Final Inspection.

5. Utilities including transformers, terminal boxes, meters, fire risers, backflow preventions, etc., shall be oriented and screened from public view.

6. Each residential building shall include illuminated house numbers that are visible from the street.

7. Down-spouts shall be connected to underground pipes to side yards or street gutters.

8. 3 foot by 10 foot (3’ x 10’) concrete pad for trash/recycling.

9. Entry walks to individual residences shall be separated from the driveway by landscaped area.

RESIDENTIAL FENCING

1. Fencing over 42” in height is prohibited in the front yards of single-family residences.

2. All wood fencing shall be treated with a water sealant to prevent water damage and staining.

3. Rear and side yards adjacent to residential uses may use “Good neighbor” fences to create rear yard privacy and security. “Good Neighbor” fences shall be constructed of cedar or redwood and shall not exceed 6 feet in height. Face panels of fence shall be attached with galvanized screws or ring-shank nails to avoid rust staining and pull out. Posts shall be galvanized steel set in minimum 2-feet deep concrete footing. Side yard fencing is not permitted to extend to within 2 feet of the front facing residence wall.

4. For residential lots adjacent to open corridors (with fencing over 42”) open type fencing is required for the front portion of the side yard. Solid fencing with staggered open gates (i.e., wrought iron) may be used for rear yard fencing. However, if the open space area is already open on one side, then the residential lot in the other side would not need open fencing. Landscaping may be utilized along the open fencing to provide privacy.

5. Chain link fencing is not permitted