

Charter Township of Fort Gratiot
Code of Ordinances – Chapter 38

Sec. 38-612. Fences, walls and other protective barriers.

(a) All fences of any nature, type or description including hedges (but not including planted greenbelts approved by the planning commission) located in the township shall conform to the following regulations:

(1) The erection, construction, or alteration of any fence, wall, or other type of protective barrier shall be approved by the building inspector as to their conforming to the requirements of the zoning district wherein they are required because of land use development and to the requirements of this section.

(2) Fences in other than AG districts, which are not specifically required under the regulations for the individual zoning districts, shall conform to the following requirements:

a. No fence shall be erected along the line dividing lots or parcels of land or located within any required rear yard in excess of six feet, or less than three feet in height above the grade of the surrounding land, and no fence shall be erected along the line dividing lots or parcels of land or located within any required side yard in excess of five feet, or less than three feet in height above the grade of the surrounding land.

b. No fence shall be located in the required front yard or yard adjacent to the street of the lots or parcels in question more than 42 inches in height.

c. All fences erected shall be of an ornamental nature. Barbed wire, spikes, nails or any other sharp point or instrument of any kind on top or on the sides of the fence, or electric current or charge in such fences is prohibited, except as permitted in subsection (a)(3) of this section. Barbed wire cradles may be placed on top of fences enclosing public buildings or wherever deemed necessary in the interest of public safety.

d. The decorative side of fences shall face outward, toward the abutting property.

(3) Fences in AG districts and fences for agricultural uses in other districts, after approval as to location and type by the building inspector, may be located on all property on road right-of-way lines of a parcel of land, providing that such fences are maintained in a good condition and do not result in an unreasonable hazard to persons who might come near them.

(b) Fences shall be subject to the following regulations:

(1) No person shall construct, erect or install a fence without first obtaining a permit from the township and constructing, erecting or installing such fence in conformance with the standards set forth in this section.

(2) Fences shall meet the following standards:

a. Installation and materials. All fences shall comply with the requirements of the single state construction code and this chapter, and any ordinance of the township as they apply to fence installation and materials.

b. Lakes and river lots. Fences on lots with frontage on Lake Huron or the Black River shall be opened and unobstructed on the lake and on the river side allowing a view up and down the lake or river from adjacent properties.

(3) The building inspector shall inspect all fences constructed, erected, or installed and issue permits of compliance.

(4) The township board may, by resolution, establish inspection or compliance fees for the cost of administration and enforcement of this section.

(Ord. No. 52, §§ 3-07.02--3-07.04, 3-07.06, 8-18-1982; Ord. No. 62, § 7-16.12, 8-11-1984; Ord. No. 110, 2-2-1994)

RESIDENTIAL FENCE SETBACKS

Section 38-612. Fences, walls, and other protective barriers.

—●—●—●—●— = FENCE LINE
 → = FRONT YARD

R = REAR YARD
 S = SIDE YARD

