

Do I need a permit to put up a fence?

Most fences do not require a permit. The exceptions are for properties in the Coastal Zone and fences that exceed six feet. Fences over six feet require a building permit with engineered drawings. Eight foot fences also need a Minor Use Permit unless they are built behind required setbacks. All fences that are visible from a public right of way are subject to Design Review. Consult a City Planner for details.

Do I need to check with anyone before I start digging postholes?

State law requires that you call USA North at 811, or 1-(800) 227-2600, two working days before you excavate. USA North, a free service, will research nearby utility lines (phone, gas, electric, etc.) so you know where they are located before you dig.

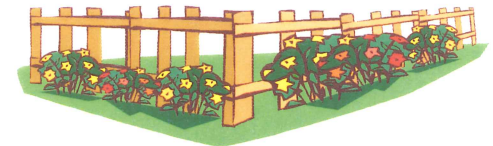
Prior to your call to USA, outline your digging location with white chalk paint or another manner sufficient to enable USA underground facility members to determine the area of digging to be field marked. USA will:

- Mark or stake the horizontal path of their underground facilities;
- Provide you with information about their underground facilities; and
- Advise you that they do not have any underground facilities in conflict with your digging work.

Visit www.usanorth.org for more information about underground utility lines.

All development applications are subject to the regulations set forth in the Fort Bragg Municipal Code. Please be advised that, prior to submittal of a complete application and set of plans, staff comments and interpretations should be considered preliminary and subject to change pending full review of a complete application package by all City, County, and State departments/agencies as necessary.

Fences



City of Fort Bragg Community Development Department

City of Fort Bragg
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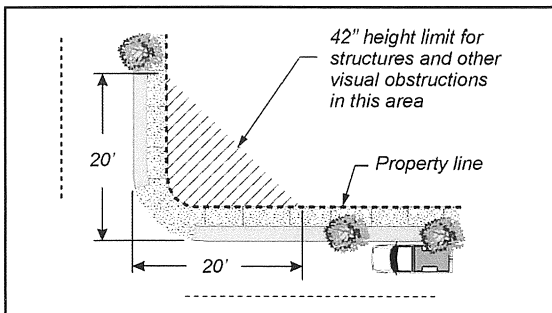
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Consult City of Fort Bragg Coastal Land Use and Development Code (CLUDC) Section 17.30.050 (for properties inside the Coastal Zone) or Inland Land Use and Development Code (ILUDC) Section 18.30.050 (for properties outside the Coastal Zone), Fences, Walls, and Screening, for further information about fences.

How tall can I build my fence?

See the table below for maximum height limits for fences, walls, and hedges.

| Location | Maximum Height |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Within front or street side setback | <p>Open fence: 6 feet. (Open fencing must be of a minimum 2-inch wire mesh or equivalent.)</p> <p>View-obscuring fence: 42 inches (3½ ft) within a traffic safety visibility area (see diagram), 6 ft elsewhere.</p> <p>Trellises, arbors and similar entry features: not permitted within a traffic safety visibility area, 8 ft elsewhere (a height greater than 6 ft requires a Building Permit).</p> |
| Within interior side or rear setback | 6 ft within the Coastal Zone, 8 ft elsewhere. |
| Outside of required setbacks | 6 ft within the Coastal Zone, 8 ft elsewhere. (A height greater than 6 ft requires a Building Permit.) |



Required Traffic Safety Visibility Area

Can I put a fence on the property line?

Yes, fences can be placed on a property line. It is recommended that adjacent property owners consult one another before erecting a fence between their properties.

Are there any fence materials that are prohibited or preferred?

Yes. The following fence materials are prohibited unless approved by the Community Development Director for animal control, special security needs, or required by a City, State, or Federal law or regulation.

1. Barbed wire or electrified fence;
2. Razor or concertina wire in conjunction with a fence or wall, or by itself; and
3. Chain link fencing within the front and street side yards.

Preferred fence materials include:

1. Materials and colors consistent with home on site.
2. Fences should be kept as low as possible.
3. Open wood fencing is preferred for Fort Bragg neighborhoods.

How do I measure the height of a fence when there are varying grades?

1. Fence height shall be measured as the vertical distance between the finished grade at the base of the fence and the top edge of the fence material;
2. The height of fencing atop a wall shall be measured from the base of the wall; and
3. In cases where elevation of the finished grade within six feet of the base of the fence differs from one side of the fence to the other (as when a fence is placed at the top of a slope or on a retaining wall), the height shall be measured from the side with the lowest natural grade; except that a safety fence with a height of 48 inches shall be allowed in all cases.

