

PO BOX 10 LAUREL, MT 59044
REQUIREMENTS FOR FENCE INSTALLATION

UPDATED: 12/05/2018

Please read the Laurel Municipal Code regulating Fence Heights (attached) prior to applying for a Fence Permit with the Building Department.

Before a permit will be issued you are required to submit a site plan showing the heights, materials to be used and setbacks from the property lines.

If a contractor will be installing the fence, they must have a current City of Laurel Business license.

It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure that the fence is installed on their property by determining the property markers and boundary. The City of Laurel does not locate property markers. Use caution to avoid encroaching on public right-ofway, easement restrictions or other restrictions such as subdivision covenants. The placement of sidewalks may not always denote the property line, thus the necessity to locate your property markers.

Always call 811 before you dig to prevent any accidents.


## CHECK LIST:

$\square$ Obtain Building Permit from Building Department (628-4796)
$\square$ Call 8112 business days before you dig
Ensure that you are installing fence on your property
Be mindful of possible easements and/or covenants that may apply

## Laurel Municipal Code

### 17.48.050 - Fence heights.

A. Fences, walls and hedges may be erected or maintained in any zoning district provided the height, setback, and material provisions outlined below are followed and a permit is secured as per Laurel Municipal Code Chapter 15.20. "Fence" for the purposes of this section means any fence, wall or hedge. No fence shall be erected or maintained in the public right-of-way, closer than one foot from a sidewalk. Fences shall be constructed on private property.
B. Height. Height for the purposes of this section shall be defined as the vertical distance from the top rail, board or wire to the ground directly below.
C. Setbacks Required. Fences, walls and hedges of up to four feet may be erected or maintained in the required front yard and side yard adjacent to street setback. Fences, walls and hedges up to six feet may be erected or maintained in rear yard and side yard not adjacent to street, except as noted in section D. None of the above setback requirements shall apply to lands located in AG, CBD, CC, HC , LI , and HI zones.
D. Side Yard Adjacent to Street Fences. If the property abuts an alley, a fence may be erected along the side yard adjacent to the street and maintained up to six feet from the rear of the dwelling to the alley as well as along the alley. Clear vision at alley shall apply.
E. Setbacks for Clear Vision Areas. No fence, wall or hedge greater than thirty inches may be erected or maintained in any zoning district within a clear vision zone as defined by City of Laurel Resolution No. R03-63. Fences of chain link, woven wire or other similar type fence which provide no more than ten percent obstruction to visibility through the fence when constructed can extend to four feet in height may be constructed in this area.
F. Material Permitted. All fences in residential, agricultural and commercial zoning districts shall be constructed from materials which are commonly used for fencing. Commonly used fence materials include wood, brick, stone, split railing, wire, vinyl, chain link and ornamental iron work. In HI and LI zones fences may be constructed of finished or coated steel or aluminum building panels. Fences shall not be constructed from railroad ties, wooden pallets, tires, rubble or salvaged material. Materials not listed are subject to special review by the city planning group.
G. Material Exception—Barbed Wire and Electric fence. In the city limits no barbed wire or electrical fencing shall be permitted in residential zoning districts. Barbed wire and electrical fencing shall be allowed in AG and RT zoning districts. Electrically charged fencing along any public way shall be posted with warning signs or fluorescent marking at intervals not to exceed one hundred fifty feet.
H. Security Fences. In AG, CBD, CC, HC, LI, and HI zones security fences may maintain a barbed wire fence on top of a non-barbed wire fence as long as the lowest strand of barbed wire is eight feet above grade.
I. Miscellaneous Exceptions. These provisions shall not apply to fences required to surround and enclose existing junk yards and public utility installations or to enclose school ground and public playgrounds.
J. Penalties. Any person violating a provision of this chapter may, upon conviction thereof, be punished as set forth in Section 1.36.010 of this code.
(Ord. 892, 1986: prior code § 17.40.010(D))
(014-01, 5-6-2014)
7.12 Clear Vision Triangle
7.12.1 Alleys: A clear vision triangle shall measure ten (10) feet into the lot and twenty (20) feet parallel to the street as measured from the property line comer. Any fence, wall, signs, plant material or other material shall provide an unobstructed cross-visibility at a level between 3 feet and 8 feet above street surface elevation. Trees having over eight (8) feet of clear trunk as measured from the surface elevation with limbs and foliage trimmed in such a manner as not to extend into the cross-visibility area and complying with section 7.2.3 are permitted in the clear vision triangle.
7.12.2 Commercial Zoned Driveway Approaches: A clear vision triangle shall measure ten (10) feet into the lot and twenty (20) feet parallel to the street as measured from the property line comer. Any fence, wall, signs, plant material or other material shall provide an unobstructed cross-visibility at a level between 3 feet and 8 feet above street surface elevation. Trees having over eight (8) feet of clear trunk as measured from the surface elevation with limbs and foliage trimmed in such a manner as not to extend into the cross-visibility area and complying with section 7.2.3 are permitted in the clear vision triangle.
7.12.3 Controlled Intersections (stop sign or traffic signal): A clear vision triangle shall measure twenty-five (25) feet in both directions as measured from the property line comer. Any fence, wall, signs, plant material or other material shall provide an unobstructed cross-visibility at a level between 3 feet and 8 feet above street surface elevation. Trees having over eight (8) feet of clear trunk as measured from the surface elevation with limbs and foliage trimmed in such a manner as not to extend into the cross-visibility area and complying with section 7.2.3 are permitted in the clear vision triangle.
7.12.4 Uncontrolled Intersections: A clear vision triangle shall measure one hundred ten (110) feet in both directions as measured from the intersection of the centerlines in the adjoining street intersection. Any fence, wall, signs, plant material or other material shall provide an unobstructed cross-visibility at a level between 3 feet and 8 feet above street surface elevation. Trees having over eight (8) feet of clear trunk as measured from the surface elevation with limbs and foliage trimmed in such a manner as not to extend into the cross-visibility area and complying with section 7.2 .3 are permitted in the clear vision triangle.
7.12.5 Vehicles shall not be parked in the public right-of way so as to obstruct the line of site created by the clear vision triangle. In the Central Business District vehicles shall not be parked in the public right-of-way so as to obstruct the maximum symmetrical line of site resulting from the allowable zero building setback from the property line or as per Montana Department of Transportation standards where applicable.
7.12.6 The portion of the city zoned and commercially occupied as Central Business District is exempt from the requirements of sections 7.12.1, 7.12.2, 7.12.3, and 7.12.4.


## CONTROLLED INTERSECTION (STOP SIGN OR TRAFFIC SIGNAL)



## ALLEY



PUBLIC R.O.W.


