



TOWN OF SIDNEY

GUIDE TO FENCES

The Zoning Bylaw permits fences in all areas in the Town of Sidney. The following is a summary of some of the requirements for fences. For complete information, please contact the Development Services Department at 250-656-1725 or by email at developmentservices@sidney.ca.

Important Definitions

The Town of Sidney Zoning Bylaw No. 2015 defines the following as:

- **Front Yard:** *A yard extending across the full width of a lot between the front lot line and the principal use, or adjoining walls or supporting members of the principal building.*
- **Rear Yard:** *A yard extending across the full width of a lot between a rear lot line and the principal use, or adjoining walls or supporting members of the principal dwelling.*
- **Interior Side Yard:** *That portion of a lot extending from the front yard to rear yard and extending from the interior lot line (property line between two properties) to the closest portion of the building face.*
- **Exterior Side Yard:** *That portion of a lot extending from the front yard to the rear yard and extending from the exterior side lot line (property line between roadway and property) to the closest portion of the building face.*

Requirements

A Fence Permit is required for the construction of all new fences. General repair and maintenance on existing fences does not require a Fence Permit, but will still need to conform to the Zoning Bylaw. The fee for a Fence Permits is \$50.00. Application requirements include a site plan showing the location and height of the proposed fence. Section 6: Landscape Design in Zoning Bylaw No. 2015 has a comprehensive list of the requirements for fences, including:

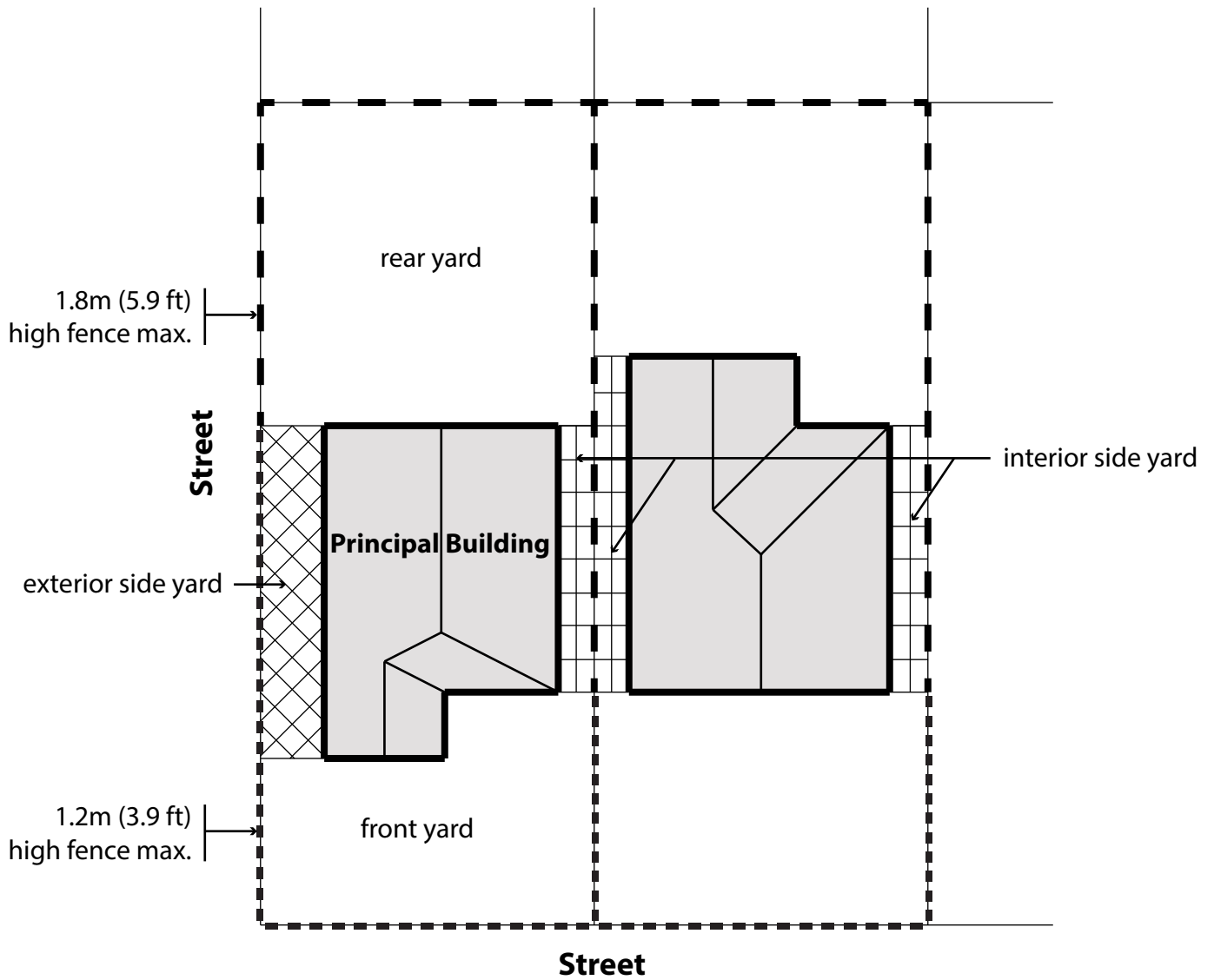
- No fence shall exceed 1.8m (5.9 feet) in height above grade;
- No fence in a front or exterior side yard shall exceed a height of 1.2m (3.9 feet);
- No fence within a required natural boundary setback (i.e. 7.6m (24.9 feet) from the natural boundary) shall exceed a height of 1.2m (3.9 feet);
- The calculation of height shall be measured from the original grade at the site directly below where the fence or retaining wall meets the ground; and
- Where a fence is constructed on top of a retaining wall, the combined height of the retaining wall and fence shall not exceed the maximum permitted height of a fence in that location.

Finally, many properties in Sidney are within Development Permit Areas. Within these areas, any alteration to a property, including the construction of a fence, requires a Development Permit prior to construction. In these instances only a Development Permit would be required; a Fence Permit would not be required. Please contact the Development Services Department for information regarding Development Permits and Development Permit Areas.

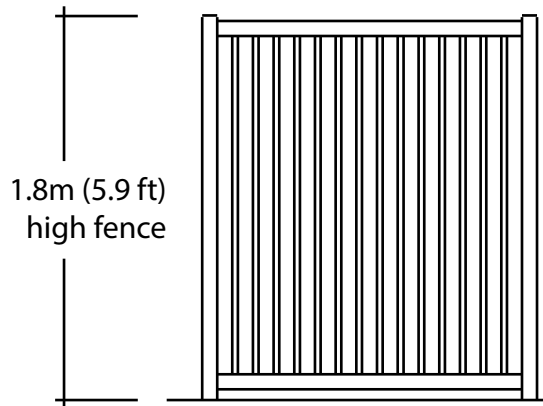
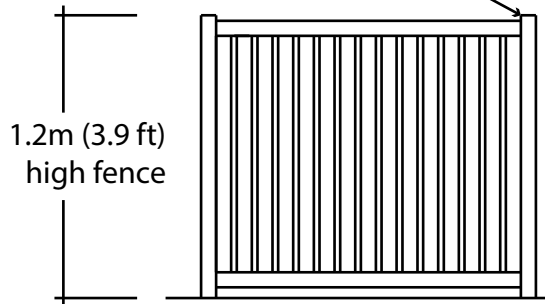
Fences around swimming pools and on panhandle lots have additional requirements, please contact the Development Services Department for more information.

This document is provided for information purposes only and is not a comprehensive list of the requirements for constructing a fence. Town of Sidney staff may inspect the premises to confirm that all applicable Zoning Bylaw requirements are satisfied before a fence is considered to be legal.

EXAMPLE SITE PLAN SHOWING FENCE LOCATIONS



Label Fence Materials
(e.g. Cedar Panel Fence)



Example fence elevations (to be submitted as part of Development Permit application)