



Good Neighbor Fence Policy

Policy #5.6.11

Department Owner:	Planning & Development		
Policy Applies To:	Fencing		
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Version #:	1.0	Resolution #:	19-022
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Intent:

1. To provide a consistent policy for residents to follow when they are considering the installation of a new fence or repair of an existing fence; further to the regulations set forth in the Town of Claresholm Land Use Bylaw No. 1525.
2. To establish guidelines for fencing common use driveways.

Guidelines:

- Before doing any work, discuss your plan with adjacent property owners. Fences are the responsibility of the property owner(s). Any costs for construction and/or maintenance of the fence are between neighbors. Disputes outside the parameters of the Land Use Bylaw or this policy must be settled as a civil matter.
- The Town of Claresholm will not mark property lines. If there are doubts as to the accuracy of the property line, a registered land surveyor can verify and stake the site.
- The property owner is responsible for all maintenance of their fence and/or required hedges contained on the homeowner's property.
- The property owner will maintain the fence such that it is aesthetically pleasing. This includes the maintenance of the exterior color. The color/materials of the fence must match the residential character of the neighborhood.
- All fences must be kept in proper working order. This includes addressing leaning, missing boards, rot, and/or holes underneath the fence. In the event that a property owner or group of property owners neglect to repair or maintain damaged or deteriorating fencing, the Town may require the owner(s) of the subject properties to repair, rehabilitate, or replace their portion of the fence through enforcement of the Unsightly Premises Bylaw.
- A fence must not pose a danger to passersby. Posts must be installed to provide stability and resistance to gusting wind loads. There should be no nail/screw points penetrating through the wood surface and no diagonal braces blocking a walkway.
- Fences may not obscure sight lines for safe roadway/pedestrian travel.
- In accordance with the Town of Claresholm Land Use Bylaw, any display of text on fences, other than a residential identification signs, is considered a sign and not permitted within residential land use districts; all other land use districts require sign permits for the display of text on fences.
- No fencing of any type shall be allowed on a common use driveway (a driveway intended for use by two adjoining property owners) where a division of such driveway by a fence would create a hazard or hardship to either property owner unless both parties agree in writing to such a fence.
- Agreements for common driveway fencing shall be required from both property owners with evidence that the agreements have been registered against the title of both properties.