The City of New Haven’s zoning ordinance regulates the placement of fences on private property. The following is a summary of the regulations that apply to residential areas:

**FRONT YARD FENCES**

Fences may be located in the front yard, BUT they can only be 2 ½ feet tall. Decorative fences which do not create a physical barrier (split-rail) can be 3 ½ feet tall. (Note: A permit is required for ALL fences in the front yard.)

**BACK AND SIDE YARD FENCES**

Fences in the back yard, and along the side yard, can be up to 8 feet tall and can be on the property line. (Note: No permit is required.)

**PERMITS**

Applications for fence permits are available at the City of New Haven Administration Building or at the City’s website (http://www.newhavenin.org).

The application must be accompanied by a drawing that shows the location of the proposed fence. The application fee for a fence permit is $20.00. The City accepts cash or checks made payable to the City of New Haven.

More information on the other side
Fence Regulations Continued

WHAT ABOUT CORNER LOTS?

Fences in the side yard, next to the street, are subject to the same regulations as those in the front yard. Decorative fences which do not create a physical barrier (split-rail) can be 3 ½ feet tall and other fences can only be 2 ½ feet tall. (Note: A permit is required for fences in the front yard and/or the side yard adjacent to the street.)

OTHER RULES

Many neighborhoods have restrictive covenants which also regulate fences. If applicable, contact your Neighborhood Association president to find out if there are other regulations that you must follow.

FENCES AND PROPERTY LINES

Fences can be located directly on property lines. Be sure to talk with your neighbors before you construct a new fence or replace an existing one. If necessary you may want to have a licensed land surveyor come out and mark the property lines for you.

EASEMENTS

Many properties have easements that are set aside for access by various utility companies (cable, phone, gas, electric, etc.) Easements should be kept free and clear of any structures that would prevent access by utility crews who may need to resolve maintenance or repair issues.

Have questions?
Call the New Haven Planning Department at (260) 748-7040.