



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FENCES

1. Does the Town of Wake Forest require a fence permit for residential uses?

- No. However, if an easement is located on your property an easement encroachment agreement and a permit will be required. If there is an easement on your property, please submit a fence permit through our [Electronic Plan Review](#) portal.
- For City of Raleigh easements, please email: pucodeenforcement@raleighnc.gov.

2. Does the Town of Wake Forest require a fence permit for non-residential uses?

- Yes, non-residential uses require a fence permit please submit a fence permit through our [Electronic Plan Review](#) portal.

3. I represent a Home Owner's Association (HOA), we want to put a fence up around our community, does the Town of Wake Forest require a fence permit?

- Yes, fences installed and replaced by the HOA require a fence permit please submit a fence permit through our [Electronic Plan Review](#) portal.

4. Do I have an easement on my property?

- Please reference Wake County iMaps at: <https://maps.raleighnc.gov/imaps/>
- If you're still not sure, please contact the Community Development Department at 919.435.9510.

5. If a fence permit is required, how much does it cost?

- \$100. Apply online using [Electronic Plan Review](#).

6. Do I need to get approval from my neighbors to install a fence?

- No. Please check with your Home Owner's Association (HOA) or restrictive covenants to see if they require approval from your neighbors.

7. Do I need to get approval from my HOA to install a fence?

- Yes, always check with your HOA and refer to any restrictive covenants you have.

8. How tall can my fence be?

- 6 feet. Your HOA may have different requirements for fence height, please check with them as well.

9. What materials can I use for my fence?

- Fences located in the front yard or fronting a public street, park or open space shall be constructed of masonry, stone, architectural block, stucco on masonry, wood or other similar material of solid appearance. Chain link fences are permitted in side and rear yards only. Fences shall not obstruct the line of sight for vehicles.
- Please reference Section 4.3.4 E (fences & garden walls) in the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) by going to the Town of Wake Forest website and search Unified Development Ordinance.

10. How close can I put my fence to the property line?

- A fence may be installed up to, but not on your property line. It is always a good idea to leave some room for maintenance of your fence.

11. I live in the ETJ, do the Wake Forest regulations apply to me?

- Yes. Properties with the Wake Forest ETJ have to follow the regulations in the Unified Development Ordinance Section 4.3.4.E

12. I live in the ETJ, can I have a fence in the front yard?

- Yes, but is not allowed to encroach neighboring properties.
- Chain link fences are permitted in side and rear yards only. Please reference Section 4.3.4 E (fences & garden walls) in the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

13. Can I install a fence in a floodplain?

- No. For further questions, please contact Community Development.
- If you are unsure whether your property is located in a floodplain or floodway, please contact Community Development at 919-435-9510.