



# Fence Maintenance

Fences are often a feature of our homes that are taken for granted, but serve various purposes for residents and neighborhoods. A well-maintained fence, properly installed, can dramatically alter the appearance of your property as well as add substantial value and improve "curb appeal." Fences provide privacy, define territory and increase our sense of security.

Richardson homeowners and residents are responsible for the upkeep and condition of the fence around their property. Fences that are leaning at a 20% angle or more in either direction or that are missing slats or sections are in violation of City code and must be repaired or replaced.

All damaged or missing portions of a fence need to be replaced or repaired with comparable materials that match the remaining portion of the fence. This does not pertain to new wood fence sections that have not had a chance to age from time and weather.

Fencing materials not allowed in the City include plywood, barbed wire, razor ribbons, sheet metal, corrugated steel, fiberglass panel or electric fences.

Screening fences are required around all swimming pools as well as open storage areas to keep them hidden from public view. Open storage refers to items stored in the front, rear or side yard, carport or unenclosed porch that are not typically found outside and occupy no more than 1% of the lot. Outdoor furniture, planters and children's toys are not considered outside storage.

Fences in your front yard can be no higher than two and a half feet and fences on the side or back of your property should not exceed 8 feet. A 4 foot or taller fence is required around a pool. Fences are not allowed on corner lots where their placement might obstruct the vision of motorists on the public streets.

If you plan on installing or replacing more than 25 percent of an existing fence, you will need to obtain a building permit. The fee for a permit is \$30. To obtain a permit you will need to contact the Building Inspection Department located at 411 W. Arapaho Road, Room 108, or via phone at 972-744-4180.

