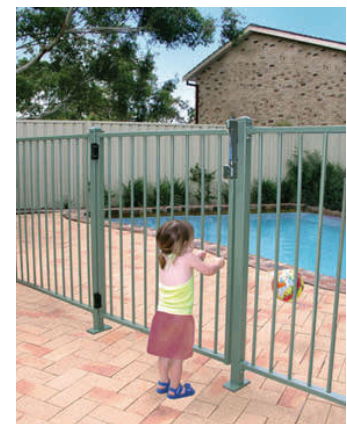


**ZONING  
INFORMATION  
BULLETIN NO 4**

Watertown Charter  
Township  
Planning & Zoning Office  
12803 S. Wacousta Rd  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

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## Fences in Watertown Charter Township

While building and zoning permits are not required for fences, they are still subject to the following zoning regulations.

**Regulations regarding all fences:**

No fence should exceed six feet in height, measured from the grade to the top of the fence.

**Regulations regarding fences in the front yard:**

Front yard fences which exceed four feet in height should be not more than 25% solid, so as not to obscure clear vision areas and the right-of-way.

Fences to enclose vacant or agricultural land may be up to six feet in height but should also be of an open type so as not to obscure vision.

Please remember that the road right-of-way extends 33' from the center of the road. This means that should you erect a fence within that right-of-way, the Clinton County Road Commission may require you to move the fence. Fence gates should also be designed to open over your property, and not the right-of-way.

**Barbed wire and electric fences:**

Barbed wire or electric fences are not permitted to enclose residential uses. They may be used for agricultural purposes when necessary, and also to enclose public utilities.

**Fences for swimming pools:**

All pools, hot tubs or spas with more than 24 inches of water require maintenance of a fenced enclosure. This fence must be approved by the Building Inspector or the Zoning Administrator to determine it is sufficient to make the pool inaccessible to children. This fence must be between four and six feet tall. All gates in the fencing must be self-latching and inaccessible from the outside.

**Friendly suggestions:**

The Planning and Zoning office suggests that you do not erect fences directly on your property line, unless you have recently had the property surveyed, and you have discussed where you are intending to place the fence with your neighbor. It would be unfortunate if you built a fence on your neighbor's property, and were later required to move the fence. There have also been cases where a resident fenced in a portion of their neighbor's property, and that neighbor made no objection, and over time, the property line was considered to be the fence line. Don't let this happen to you!

Be careful and conscious of how the fence will appear to your neighbors. It is a generally accepted practice that the "nice" side of the fence be the side that faces your neighbors or the road. The old adage may be that "good fences make good neighbors" but fences can also cause a lot of unnecessary grief.

For additional information regarding fences, please review section 28-560 of the Zoning Ordinance.