



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
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City of Newburyport Fence Regulations
May 26, 2022

Dear Fence Contractors/Installers,

Please be advised of the following fence design and installation regulations for the City of Newburyport.

Failure to adhere to the following (and attached) guidelines may result in required removal and replacement of non-compliant fencing, as well as possible fines in accordance with local zoning and other ordinances.

-Side and Rear Yard Fences may be located within the required setbacks provided they do not exceed seven (7) feet. Fences taller than seven (7) feet require a Building permit.

-Front Yard Fences that are located within the required setback are not permitted to exceed four (4) feet in height above adjacent grade.

-Traffic visibility for driveways: Within 5' of the front property line and adjacent to driveway fences may not exceed 30" in height "unless it can be shown in advance of installation that such fence will not restrict the visibility in such a way to hinder the safe entry of a vehicle from any driveway to the street."

-Fencing on Plum Island: Please see attached Plum Island Fencing Guidelines. These guidelines can also be found on the City's website at: <https://www.cityofnewburyport.com/conservation-commission/pages/policies-guidelines>. New fencing and fencing replacement must comply with these regulations as well as locations and heights noted above.

-Downtown Overlay District Fences must comply with section XXVII-Fi with regard to material and style. Heights greater than 4' that are visible from the public way or the Merrimack River may be approved by the Planning Board as a DOD Special Permit.

Private fences may not be placed on public property including the public right of way along street frontage. Please note that in some locations this may be a significant distance back from the edge of pavement. A survey is the best way to determine the location of property lines.

Please note: Failure to adhere to the above guidelines may result in required removal and replacement of non-compliant fencing, as well as possible fines in accordance with local zoning and other ordinances.

For questions regarding these regulations please contact:

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Julia Godtfredsen, Conservation Administrator jgodtfredsen@cityofnewburyport.com