

Excerpt from Robins Zoning Ordinance

165.32 FENCE, WALL AND HEDGE REGULATIONS. Regulation of the location, height, and certain features of fences, walls, and/or dense hedges are necessary to assure the attractiveness of the community and to prevent potential hazards to life and property. No fence or wall shall be erected or maintained unless it is in compliance with the regulations contained herein and the design and construction requirements specified within Chapter 155 of this Code of Ordinances. All non-agricultural fences, walls or combinations thereof except temporary fences used for public safety or soil erosion shall not be erected, altered, replaced, or maintained without the prior submittal and approval of a building permit.

1. Fences and walls may be erected or maintained along a lot line on residential zoned property or adjacent thereto to a height not exceeding six (6) feet above the ground level which is located in a required side yard, to a height not exceeding four (4) feet above the ground level which is located in a required front yard, and to a height not exceeding eight (8) feet above the ground level which is located in a required rear yard, unless the rear lot line abuts a side lot line on neighboring residential property, in which case, the height limitation shall be six (6) feet above ground level. Where a property is double-fronted, the height of the fence or wall shall not exceed four (4) feet above ground level except where a rear yard has been established and the fence abuts a side or rear yard of a neighboring residential property, the height of the fence shall be limited to six (6) feet. Where such lot line is along or adjacent to commercially or industrially zoned property, the fence or wall shall be limited to eight (8) feet above ground level.
2. Fences, walls, dense hedges, and other planting may be erected or grown in public utility or drainage easements in accordance with the provisions of this section, except that no fence, wall, or dense hedge may be erected without the prior approval from the City and as a condition of that approval, the City shall require that the applicant acknowledge the rights of the City as an easement holder and waive any and all damages that might be otherwise accrued if the City shall need to remove the fence, wall, or hedge, in the exercise of its rights under the easement.
3. Dense hedges consisting of shrubs that comply with subsection 4 of this section may be grown or planted along a lot line or adjacent thereto provided that the dense hedge does not project into public use area (e.g., sidewalk, alley).
4. Fence, wall, and dense hedges shall meet the following visual clearance requirements:
 - A. No opaque fence, wall, dense hedge, or other plantings, signs, or structures that will obstruct vision between a height of two and one-half (2½) feet to ten (10) feet above the centerline grades of the intersecting streets shall be erected, placed, or maintained, within the triangular area formed, the right-of-way lines as such corner and a straight line joining said right-of-way lines at points which are twenty-five (25) feet distant from the intersection of the right-of-way lines, and measured along the right-of-way lines.

- B. No opaque fence, wall, dense hedge, or other plantings, shall exceed a height of four (4) feet when located within twelve (12) feet of an intersecting driveway, alley or street.
 - C. In the context of this subsection, “opaque” is defined as structure which block or otherwise prevents the passage of light through 50% or more of its surface area.
 - D. No opaque fence shall be permitted in the front yard.
 - E. Requirements shall be as established by engineering design standards and recommendation by the City Engineer for any situation not defined within this section.
5. The smooth or decorative face of a fence or wall shall face any public right of way or neighboring property. All supports, including posts must be placed on the inside of the fence or wall, opposite of the smooth or decorative face.
6. Barbed wire shall be prohibited except as follows:
- A. Fences having barbed wire may be used for permitted agricultural uses of enclosing and protecting livestock or domestic animals. Where the agricultural use abuts a sidewalk or residential use, the barbed wire shall be a minimum of 40 inches above ground level and shall not project over any sidewalk or residential use or lot.
 - B. A fence within an industrial or commercial zoned district may be topped with barbed wire provided that the barbed wire is seven (7) feet above ground level and the barbed wire does not project into any general public or business use areas.
7. Electrical fences shall be prohibited from use within all zoning districts except for the enclosure of livestock and domestic animals within agricultural zoned districts, provided the electrical fence is not within a street right-of-way. An electrical fence may be adjacent to a neighboring residential use lot line, provided the electrical fence is suspended a minimum of five (5) inches into the agricultural zoned property or a minimum of 48 inches high.
8. No fence or wall shall be erected within the 100-year flood plain without the prior written approval from the City Council.
9. Violations of any fence, wall, or hedge regulations outlined in this section, shall be addressed as a public nuisance.