

Last revised: July 2, 2021

## Fences

### Reference materials

Section 5.4 of the Zoning Bylaw No. 2021-01 ([www.penticton.ca/bylaws](http://www.penticton.ca/bylaws))

**Q: How high can I build a fence?**

**A:** Zoning Bylaw No. 2021-01 outlines the maximum permitted heights of fences, depending on the zoning of the property:

Zone	Maximum Permitted Height		Notes
	Within Front Yard Setback	Outside Front Yard Setback	
Residential zones that begin with 'R'	1.2m	1.8m	PROHIBITED types of fencing: Barbed wire Razor wire Electric fencing
Commercial zones that begin with 'C'	1.2m	1.8m	
Industrial zones that begin with an 'M'	2.4m	2.4m	PROHIBITED types of fencing: Razor wire
Agricultural zones that begin with an 'A'	2.4m	2.4m	

**Q: Why are fence heights limited in the front yard?**

**A:** The reason for having lower fences within the front yard setback is to provide visibility between buildings and the street they face. This helps keep neighbours connected and can improve sightlines towards the public realm.

**Q: Do I need a permit to build a fence?**

**A:** No, a permit is not required to build a fence in Penticton.

\*NOTE: The only exception is if you are constructing a pool. The BC Building Code has fencing and gate requirements that will be checked as part of a pool permit. Contact the Building Department for more information.

**Q: How do I find out where my property lines are?**

**A:** The City does not keep complete records of surveys for every property in Penticton. The most accurate way to confirm your property lines is to hire a BC Land Surveyor who will attend your property and mark exactly where the property lines are on the ground. Please note that often property lines do not extend all the way to the edge of the road. The City owns a strip of land on either side of every street for services, such as streetlights.

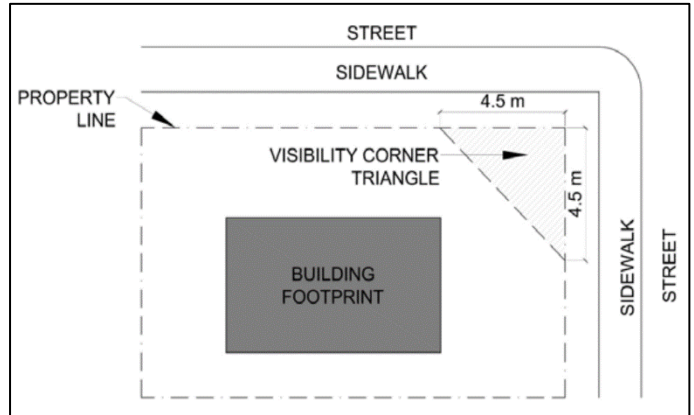
**Q: How do I confirm the zoning of my property?**

**A:** Zoning for your property can be found by searching your address on Penticton's Property Viewer at [gis.penticton.ca/parcel-viewer](http://gis.penticton.ca/parcel-viewer) and viewing the 'Planning' layer.

**Q: I own a corner property. What should I consider?**

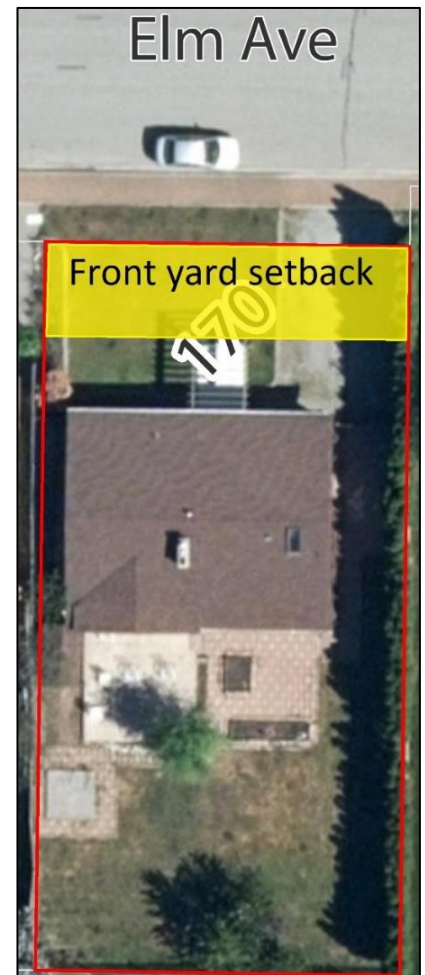
**A:** Corner properties are located at street intersections and maintaining visibility is important. Every corner property is subject to a corner visibility triangle. This area is measured 4.5m from the intersection point along both street-side property lines, as shown on the diagram to the right. As per Section 4.3 of Zoning Bylaw No. 2021-01, no hedge, planting, tree, fence, sign, or other structure is permitted to a height greater than 1.2m.

\*NOTE: the corner visibility triangle does not apply to laneways, only at the intersection of two City streets.



**Q: Example property: 170 Elm Avenue**

**A:** The example property located at 170 Elm Ave is zoned R1 (Large Lot Residential). The R1 zone has a 6.0m front yard setback. The image of the property indicates the approx. 6.0m front yard setback, where fencing can be a maximum of 1.2m high. Elsewhere on the property, outside the front yard setback, fencing can be a maximum of 1.8m high.



For further information on fences, please contact the Planning Department  
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