

## **Residential Fence Rules and Codes for Orland Park, IL**

As a southwestern suburb of Chicago, Orland Park is located just north of Interstate 80, and has direct Metra links for commuters into Chicago. With a population of nearly 57,000 and a distinct family orientation, it's a popular suburb for many homebuyers. An extensive park system, excellent schools and plenty of shopping opportunities make it attractive to homeowners. All types of housing can be found in the city, which has many beautiful neighborhoods with well-maintained single-family homes. Average family income in this beautiful city is higher than most other Chicago suburbs as well.

### **General Requirements for Residential Fences**

When property owners begin planning a fence project to enclose their property, a set of precise city ordinances controls the type, style and height of all residential fences. Although the codes are not complex, they are designed to keep all neighborhoods looking their best and to promote safety for residents. Many residents choose to hire professional installers. In historic districts, fences must meet strict appropriateness standards. Pride of ownership is high in this affluent suburban community.

- **Building Permit Required?** – A permit is required for all fence installations, and costs \$60.
- **Permit Documentation Needed** – You'll need a legible copy of a plat of survey marked with the precise location of the proposed fence, a description of the type and height of the fence, and a signed copy of the city's Fence Rules and Regulations document, along with the name of your contractor and the cost of the installation.
- **Fence Materials Allowed** – All generally acceptable materials are allowed, but specific rules apply for corner lots and historic districts.
- **Maximum Height Limits** – Maximum fence height in most cases is 6'.
- **Property Line Issues** – Except for corner lots, most fences may be built up to the lot line. All posts and support systems must be on the owner's side of the property. Back-to-back fences are allowed.
- **Inspections Needed** – A final inspection is required for all fences. Corner lot installations also require a field check by an inspector before a permit can be issued.
- **Building Authority Contact** – 708-403-5300
- **Building Department Website**

### **Specific Rules and Restrictions**

- **Front Yard Fences** – Only ornamental designs are allowed past the home's front line. All front yard fences are subject to planning department approval.

- **Side Yard Fences** – These must be behind the front building line, with a maximum height of 6’.
- **Back Yard Fences** – These are limited to 6’ in height.
- **Corner Lot Restrictions** – Privacy fences are allowed only behind the front building line. All corner lot projects must be reviewed and approved before construction. Ornamental fences of open construction must be set back 1’ from property lines if less than 5’ high or located at least 5’ from the property line with a maximum height of 6’. No front yard fences or chain link fences are allowed. Traffic sight lines cannot be blocked.
- **Swimming Pool Fences** – Pools must be enclosed by a fence at least 5’ high.
- **Other Ordinances**
  - No fence or gate may obstruct or interfere with public use of streets, sidewalks, right-of-ways or easements.
  - In the Old Orland District, only white picket styles are allowed, except along alleys. They can be no more than 5’ high, and require a Certificate of Appropriateness.
  - All supports and posts must face inward, toward the owner’s property.
- **Homeowner’s Association Issues** – Owners must follow all HOA covenants and ordinances.
- **Commercial Fence Codes** – Commercial and industrial fence regulations vary according to zoning and usage. Contact Orland Park Development Services for commercial fence codes.

### **Residential Fence Installation Codes in Orland Park, IL**

Most homeowners in this suburban city will want to work with a licensed contractor for their project installation. While DIY construction is allowed, the complexity of the city’s rules and the hard work and time required means that few do-it-yourself fences are built in Orland Park. A local contractor can help you with all phases of the project, from design and materials selection to obtaining the required permits and installing a great-looking fence that will enhance your home and increase the value of your investment. Get estimates from more than one contractor on the total cost and you’ll be able to make an informed choice as a consumer.