



CITY OF BLUE EARTH

125 West Sixth Street •Blue Earth, MN 56013 •Phone 507-526-7336 •Fax 507-526-7352

FENCE PERMIT APPLICATION

Site Address: _____

Owner: _____ Applicant: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Type of Fence : (please check all that apply)

New Chain link other Alteration Wood

Type of Screening: (please check all the apply)

Trees Shrubs

Size of fence:

(If a *free standing* sign, please include sketch of location with distances to property line and provide the following).

Length: _____ft. Width: _____ft. Height: _____ft. Total Area: _____sq.ft.

Value : \$ _____

FILING REQUIREMENTS (See Back for Details)

- copies of scaled drawing of fence specifications.
- copies of site plan showing fence location and lot lines
- if existing fence, provide description of existing that will remain.
- signatures of ALL abutting property owners, confirming notification of project.**

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY AGREES TO DO ALL WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH BLUE EARTH CITY CODE AND THE RULINGS OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

Applicant Signature

Shaded Area Below For Office Use Only

Permit #: _____ **Permit Fee: \$** _____ **Receipt#:** _____

Approvals

Building Official: _____ **Zoning Administrator:** _____

Date: ____/____/____ Date: ____/____/____ Sign Permits

1040.04. Screening.

Subd. 1. Purpose. The purpose of Section 1040.04 of the Code of the City of Blue Earth is to promote a pleasant physical environment, and to protect public and private property within the City of Blue Earth by regulating the location, height, type of construction, and maintenance of screening and fencing.

Subd. 2. Permit Required. No person shall erect a screen or fence within the City of Blue Earth without written authorization from the Zoning Administrator or City Administrator.

Subd. 3. Prohibited Materials. Except as specifically provided below in Subd. 4 of this Section, the following types of fencing and screening materials shall not be permitted within the City of Blue Earth:

- A. Electrically Charged Element
- B. Barbed Wire
- C. Spiked Wire or Board
- D. Temporary roll fencing (such as wood or synthetic based snow fencing)

Subd. 4. Exceptions to Prohibited Materials. Prohibited materials shall only be allowed for use as fencing or screening if authorized by the Zoning Administrator or City Administrator under the following circumstances:

- A. Enclosure of public buildings and structures if at least eight feet (8 ft.) above grade level.
- B. Enclosure of communication support structures if at least eight feet (8 ft.) above grade level.
- C. Purposes of underground or invisible pet restraint systems.
- D. Purposes of above ground animal restraint systems located upon lands zoned for agricultural use in Chapter 10 of the City Code.
- E. Enclosure of private property located within designated lands zoned for industrial and highway business use in Chapter 10 of the City Code if at least eight feet (8 ft.) above grade level.
- F. Temporary roll fencing for the purpose of establishing a safety barrier protecting construction zones, dangerous conditions, crowd control, etc.

Subd. 5. Required Residential Screening. Screening shall be required in residential zones where (1) any off-street parking area contains more than four (4) parking spaces and is within thirty (30) feet of an adjoining residential zone, and (2) where the driveway to a parking area of more than six (6) parking spaces is within fifteen (15) feet of an adjoining residential use or zone.

Subd. 6. Required Business Screening. Where any business (structure, parking or storage) is adjacent to property zoned or developed for residential use, that business or industry shall provide screening along the boundary of the residential property. Screening shall also be provided where a business, parking lot or industry is across the street from a residential zone, but not on that side of a business or industry considered to be the front (as determined by the Building Inspector).

Subd. 7. Required Exterior Storage Screening. All exterior storage shall be screened. The exceptions are: (1) merchandise being displayed for retail sale on-site; (2) materials and equipment presently being used for construction on the premises; and (3) merchandise located on service station pump islands.

Subd. 8. Requirements for Required Screening. The screening required in this Subsection may consist of a fence, trees, shrubs and berms not less than six (6) feet high but shall not extend within fifteen (15) feet of any street or driveway. The screening shall be placed no closer than fifteen (15) feet from the street right-of-way with landscaping between the screening

and pavement. The screening shall block direct vision and have an opacity of not less than eighty percent (80 %.). Planting of a type approved by the Zoning Administrator or City Administrator may also be required in addition to or in lieu of fencing.

Subd. 9. Limitations for Non-required Residential Screening. Fencing within a residential zone at the option of the property owner shall be limited to six (6) feet in height, shall not extend within fifteen (15) feet of the improved portion of any street, and shall in no way be constructed so as to obscure traffic visibility on any street or at any intersection. No fence may extend closer to the street located nearest the front of the house than the principal building, except decorative fencing is allowed in the front of a home if not designed or serving as an enclosure. Decorative fencing includes, but is not limited to, such things as split rail, picket, and brick fences. Decorative fencing shall not include chain link fencing. The allowed height for decorative fencing shall not exceed six feet (6 ft.) at its tallest point. All decorative fencing shall permit at least fifty percent (50%) opacity.

Subd. 10. Maintenance. All screening or fencing in the City of Blue Earth must be maintained in good repair on both sides of the fence or screen and present an appropriate appearance on both sides of the fence or screen consistent with the character of the neighborhood in which the screen or fence is located. All screening or fencing shall be maintained so that the outer surface shall be uniform in appearance and shall be uniformly painted, stained, or rust proofed, material permitting. The finished side of all screening or fencing shall face outward towards the nearest street or neighboring property.

Subd. 11. General Requirements.

- A. Easements and Public Right-of-Way. No screening or fencing shall be permitted upon public right-of-way. No screening or fencing shall be erected upon or within any platted or otherwise designated easement.
- B. Property-line Screening or Fencing. Screening or fencing shall not be erected within the City of Blue Earth any closer than three (3) feet from the property line. A variance shall be required for placement of screening or fencing closer to the property line. Where the property line is not clearly defined and located, a certificate of survey may be required by the Zoning Administrator or City Administrator to establish the property boundary prior to issuance of a building permit.