Fences

A permit is required in order to construct a fence, and certain guidelines must be followed.

A fence may be placed **up to, but not on the property line.** This rule applies to all portions of the fence, including posts, concrete and fence face. The exact location of the property line must be determined before constructing the fence. Lot size and property dimensions are available at the City Assessor's office.

If help is needed at your property, you will need to requires the services of a private surveyor at your expense.

Fences must maintain a 10 ft. vision triangle at street/alley intersections and a 30 ft. street intersection vision triangle. Fences in residential districts cannot exceed 6 ft. in height. Posts of fences must face your property. All fences must be 3 ft. from public road right-of-way and alley.

As a property owner, you are responsible for the maintenance of both sides of the fence, as well as any landscaping materials or grass which grows around the bottom of the fence.

Fencing materials over 48" in height may not be placed in the front yard setback.

A fence shall not be located within 3' of an electric meter.

Fences installed on the owner's premise shall not result in making an existing metering location unsafe or inaccessible. This can be caused by customers installing locks on gates, not maintaining gates, barricading gates, keeping dogs or other animals in the fenced area, or not shoveling snow from gates in the winter months.

If a metering location becomes unsafe or inaccessible, the owner will be required to remove the fence or have the meter socket/pedestal moved at the owner's expense.

Maintain proper clearance for utility equipment (transformers and tap boxes) contact Marshfield Utilities at 715-387-1195.

Before doing any digging, contact Digger's Hotline at 1-800-242-8511 for location of any underground wires.

Please Remember. . .

The City of Marshfield, Building Services Division is anxious to help you achieve a safe and proper building/home improvement. We are happy to answer your questions. We urge you to obtain a permit and have your work inspected for compliance. You will not only be complying with the law, you will be protecting your family.

This brochure is intended to provide a summary of various code requirements for the City of Marshfield. This is not a complete list of code items. As always, please consult with City of Marshfield staff prior to commencing building activity.

Building Services Division

630 South Central Avenue

PO Box 727

Marshfield, WI 54449-0727

Phone: 715-387-1344

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CITY OF MARSHFIELD

Quick Facts

Residential Swimming Pools, Decks & Fences

MARSHFIELD

The City in the Center

http://ci.marshfield.wi.us

Revised: 7/10/2012

PERMIT PROCEDURES

In order to obtain a building permit for your **swimming pool**, the following information needs to be provided.

1. A site plan providing lot dimensions, location of the house, garage, any accessory buildings, and the location of the proposed pool. This site plan must indicate setbacks from the pool to all property lines, and location of all overhead and underground wires. Any existing easements need to be included on the site plan.
2. A building permit application completed and signed by the owner or contractor, along with the appropriate permit fee.
3. An electrical permit, as needed.

In order to obtain a building permit for your **deck**, the following information needs to be provided.

1. A site plan indicating lot dimensions, location of the house, the proposed deck, and any other out buildings. This site plan must indicate setbacks of the deck from all property lines, and any other detached buildings.
2. A building permit application completed and signed by the owner or contractor, along with the appropriate permit fee.

Inspections

Inspections are required at various stages of construction. The following types of inspections may be required, depending on the project.

Footing Inspection — Needed before any concrete is poured for deck footings, and before any sod is removed or digging occurs for the location of a pool.

Electrical Inspection — Needed when wiring is done for a pool (GFCI).

Final Inspection — After all work is completed and pool or deck is ready to use.

Code Requirements

Swimming Pools

All swimming pools greater than 30 inches in depth or height are required to obtain a building permit before construction. This includes in-ground, as well as above-ground pools.

7½ ft. to property line and surrounded by a security fence which is a minimum of 4 ft. in height. All gates shall be secured when pool is unattended. Above-ground pools with walls 4 ft. in height or higher shall not require a fence; however, ladders for these pools shall be removed when not in use and steps to decks abutting these pools shall be secured with gates when unattended.

Swimming pool pump/filters must be 30 ft. to property line, except where lots are less than 60 ft. wide, in which case pumps and filters must be centered on the lot.

All pools must be located at least 5 ft. horizontally from any underground electrical wires, and 10 ft. horizontally from any overhead electrical wires.

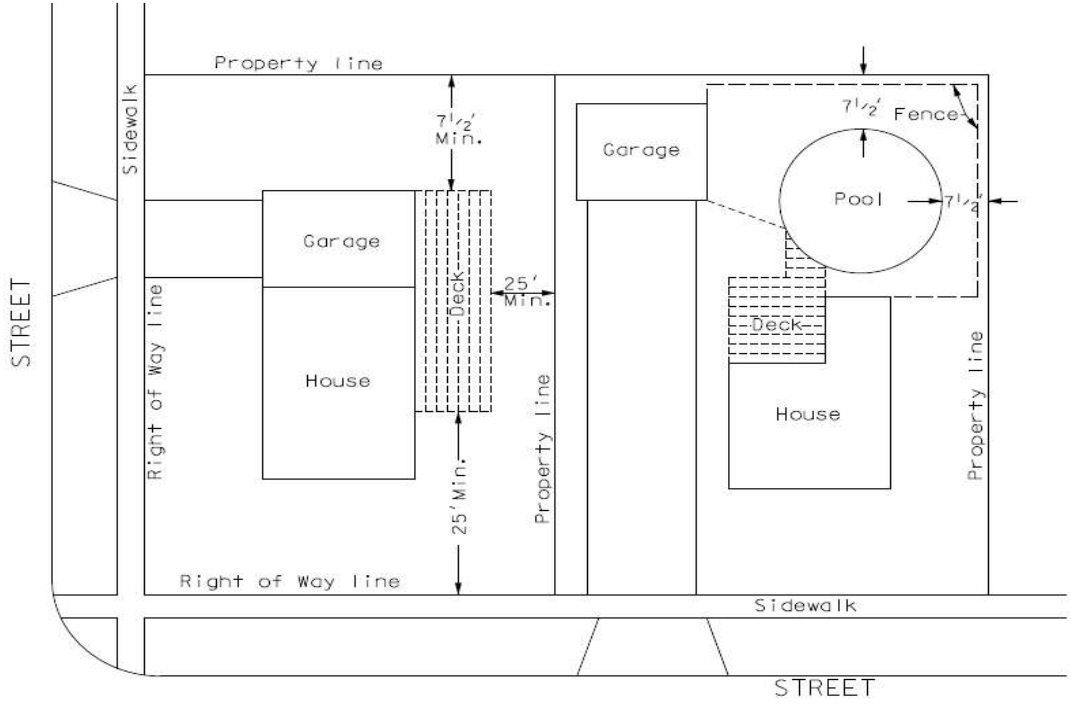
An electrical permit is required with all pools needing a pump and filter system, and must be supplied by circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters.

Decks

A deck located within 5 ft. from the foundation of a house is regarded as attached, whether it is physically attached or not. A building permit is required for all decks. All decks require a minimum 4" x 4" treated timbers to be 48" depth below grade resting on concrete pads. The deck must be designed to carry a 40 lb. per sq. ft. live load.

Handrails are required on every stairs with more than three risers and on all open sides of a stairway. Guardrails are required on decks which are more than 24" above grade, and shall be located at least 36" above the upper surface of the floor. Open guardrails shall provide intermediate rails which prevent the passage of a sphere with a diameter larger than 4".

Treated lumber must be used when constructing a deck or other Engineered product.

A deck shall **not** be located within 3' of an electric meter or on top of any underground wires.

Setback requirements for decks vary depending on zoning and if you are on a corner lot. Rear lot line setbacks are no less than 25 ft. Contact City of Marshfield Zoning Administrator at 715-486-2075 to find out your setback requirements.