

What is the Fence & Pool Enclosure By-law?

This By-law sets requirements for the height and description of fences, privacy screens or enclosures in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, as well as the requirement to build and maintain fences and gates around swimming pools. These requirements are established to protect the health, safety and well-being of residents.



Contact

If you have any additional questions or concerns about the Fence & Pool Enclosure By-law, please contact:

Building Services

Phone: 905-640-1910 or
1-855-642-TOWS (8697)
Extension 2253

For more information, visit our Property Standards web page on
www.townofws.ca



Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

Fence & Pool Enclosure By-law 2013-168-RE

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
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Fences, Privacy Screens or Enclosures

Fences, privacy screens or enclosures must be maintained in a structurally sound and safe condition, in good repair. They shall not:

- Be composed of sheet metal or corrugated metal panel members;
- Include materials not usually intended for use in permanent fencing (e.g. tires or corrugated plastic), unless specifically permitted in this or any Town By-law; or
- Include a gate within that portion of the fence, privacy screen or enclosure that abuts land owned by the Town.

Privacy Screen

Every privacy screen shall be:

- Located only in a side or rear yard;
- Located no closer to a lot line or street line than a deck would be permitted;
- No longer than 5 metres in any dimension; and
- No more than 2.5 metres in height if constructed at grade and no more than 1.8 metres in height if constructed on a deck.

Fences in Residential Areas

Fences in a residential zone, or any zone that would permit a residential use, should be:

- No higher than 1 metre above the ground within the front yard; &
- No higher than 2.2 metres above the ground within any interior side yard, exterior yard or rear yard.

Fences in Non-Residential Areas

Fences on any commercial, industrial or institutional lot shall be:

- No higher than 3 metres above ground within the rear yard or interior side yard; &
- No higher than 1 metre above the ground within the front yard, except where accessory outdoor storage is lawfully maintained within the front yard, in which case the provisions of this By-law relating to accessory outdoor storage shall apply.



Swimming Pool Requirements

Before a swimming pool can be constructed, you must:

- Submit all plans for the pool and enclosure to the Chief Building Official;
- Pay a permit fee; and
- Receive a permit from the Town Building Department signifying approval of such plans by the Chief Building Official

A swimming pool must be completely surrounded by an enclosure to ensure it is not readily accessible to small children. Each enclosure, including its gates must:

- Extend from the ground to a height measured on the outside of the enclosure of at least 1.5 metres;
- Not be located adjacent to any permanent object that allows the climbing of the enclosure into the pool area;
- Not have any gaps within or below that exceeds 100 mm; and
- Not be within 1.2 metres of the edge of the water contained in the swimming pool.