



CITY OF ORANGE BEACH ZONING ORDINANCE

FENCES AND HEDGES (ARTICLE 5.03)

The full Zoning Ordinance is available online at www.orangebeachal.gov/188/Zoning-Ordinance



All fences or hedges within the required yard areas shall conform to the following regulations except where special requirements are set forth for specific screening purposes elsewhere in this Ordinance or where modifications are required to meet the requirements of other Sections of this Ordinance. Fences and walls are not accessory structures. Fences and walls may be constructed on any lot whether or not there is a principal structure located on the lot

5.0301 FRONT YARDS

To ensure maximum sight distance along all roadways within the City, all walls and fences within a required front setback shall not exceed four (4) feet in height, except walls and fences of greater height may be permitted to enclose garbage and trash receptacles and above-ground components of a public utility system, provided the Zoning Official determines that:

- a) The area enclosed and the height of walls and fences are the minimum necessary to screen such facilities from view;
- b) It is not practical to locate such facilities in locations other than in a required front yard;
- c) The encroachment of such walls and fences onto a required front yard is the minimum necessary;
- d) The materials used, and the method of construction for such walls or fences meet all standards prescribed by the City of Orange Beach;
- e) The maximum height of any wall or fence used for the enclosure of such facilities is the minimum necessary and in no case shall the height exceed six (6) feet; and
- f) In the case of screening trash receptacles, no trash, garbage, empty boxes or other containers, may be stored outside the fenced area.

5.0302 SIDE AND REAR YARDS

All fences within the required side or rear yards shall not exceed six (6) feet in height. A street corner side yard shall be considered a front yard for these purposes, and shall conform to the requirements stated for a front yard.

5.0303 SCREENS FOR GARBAGE AND TRASH RECEPTACLES

A six (6) foot high fence shall be required to screen garbage and trash receptacles/containers for businesses, industrial, PUDs and multi-family developments from public view. The fence shall be constructed on at least three (3) sides of the receptacles with any non-constructed opening away from the primary line of sight. No trash or garbage, including empty boxes and other containers, may be stored outside of this fenced area.

5.0304 PROHIBITED FENCES

- A. Fences equipped with concertina wire, barbed tape, barbed wire, razor wire, or similar devices are prohibited with the exception of site securement of the following land uses:
 1. Municipal facilities
 2. Agriculture and related farming operations, excluding timber growing and harvesting
 3. Livestock and poultry raising
 4. Natural resource production, including the extraction of oil, gas and water
 5. Public utility production and maintenance facilities
 6. Public utility substations
 7. Water storage facilities
 8. Water pumping station

B. Warning Signs

Concertina wire, barbed tape, barbed wire, razor wire, or similar devices shall be clearly identified with minimum twelve (12) inch by twelve (12) inch warning signs on both the inside and outside of fence. The signs shall read *Danger – Barbed Wire* or *Danger – Razor Wire* in English, at intervals of not greater than fifty (50) feet.

5.0305 POSTS AND SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Fences shall be installed with the finished side facing the adjoining property or public or private right-of-way. Fence posts must be located on the inside of the fence facing the property on which the fence is located. Posts and supporting members may be viewable if the fence has a shadowbox design or uses panels across the front and back to give the fence a finished appearance on both sides. Fence composed entirely of fence posts and incomplete fences consisting only of posts and supporting members shall be prohibited.



Note: Pool barriers have additional requirements not covered in the zoning ordinance. Refer to the *Safety Barrier Guidelines for Residential Pools* for more information.

www.orangebeachal.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1084/Swimming-Pool-Safety-Barrier-Guidelines-for-Residential-Pools-PDF



CITY OF ORANGE BEACH ZONING ORDINANCE

GENERAL FENCING REQUIREMENTS (ARTICLE 10.0306 d)

for the **BEACH OVERLAY DISTRICT**



The Beach Overlay District is displayed on the Zoning Map at www.orangebeachal.gov/209/Geographic-Information-Systems-GIS and the full Zoning Ordinance is available online at www.orangebeachal.gov/188/Zoning-Ordinance

1. **PERMITTED MATERIALS:** Fences shall be constructed of wood, composite wood, brick, fieldstone, masonry, wrought iron, vinyl or other permanent materials designed for permanent fencing that is not prohibited by this Ordinance. Sand fencing and split rail fencing may be permitted upon staff review and approval.
2. **PROHIBITED MATERIALS:** Fences shall not be constructed of barbed wire, singlestrand wire, rope, or of used or discarded materials in disrepair, including, but not limited to, pallets, tree trunks, trash or other similar items. Materials not specifically manufactured for fencing, such as railroad ties, wood panels, galvanized sheet metal, landscaping timbers or utility poles shall be prohibited.
3. **CHAIN LINK FENCING:** Permanent vinyl coated chain link fencing may only be permitted when enclosing a basketball court, tennis court, or other similar recreational facility. Temporary chain link fencing may be used on a site when an active site and/or building permit has been issued for the site, but must be removed whenever the permitted activities on the site have been completed or the site and/or building permit have expired.
4. **POST AND SUPPORTING MEMBERS:** Fences shall be installed with the finished side facing the adjacent property or public right-of-way. Fence posts must be located on the inside of the fence facing the property on which the fence is located. Post and supporting members may be viewable if the fence has a shadowbox design or uses panels across the front and back to give the fence a finished appearance on both sides. Fences composed entirely of fence posts and incomplete fences consisting only of posts and supporting members shall be prohibited.
5. **FRONT YARD:** Fences and walls may be located within required front yard provided that the height does not exceed thirty (30) inches. Decorative architectural features on walls/fences shall not be included in the height except that it shall not extend more than one (1) foot above the maximum height and have a minimum spacing of eight (8) feet between it. The Planning Commission may approve a wall or fence greater than thirty (30) inches where compliance regulations justifies the height or when the wall or fence is proposed to enclose trash receptacles and/or above-ground components of a public utility system and meets the conditions of Article 5.0301.
6. **SIDE AND REAR YARD:** Fences and walls may be located within the required side and rear yards provided the height does not exceed six (6) feet.
7. **PLACEMENT:** Fences shall be no closer than six (6) inches to a public sidewalk.
8. **MAINTENANCE:** Fences shall be maintained in a manner to prevent, rust, corrosion and deterioration so not to become a public or private nuisance and so not to be dilapidated or a danger to adjacent property owners or the public.
9. **EXISTING FENCES:** Any fence existing upon the effective date of this Ordinance that does not meet the requirements of this Ordinance shall not be enlarged, City of Orange Beach Zoning Ordinance 10 - 15 Article 10 Architectural Standards and Restrictions extended or replaced, except in strict compliance with all requirements of this Ordinance. Nonconforming fences existing upon the effective date of this Ordinance shall be removed, altered, or otherwise made to conform to the provisions of this Ordinance within seven hundred thirty (730) days of its passage.



Note: Pool barriers have additional requirements not covered in the zoning ordinance.
Refer to the *Safety Barrier Guidelines for Residential Pools* for more information.
(www.orangebeachal.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1084/Swimming-Pool-Safety-Barrier-Guidelines-for-Residential-Pools-PDF)