

CITY OF RENSSELAER

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY BUILDING AND ZONING

SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

FENCES AND WALLS

Chapter 179 Article V of the City of Rensselaer's Code states

A. Fences and walls shall not exceed six feet in height when erected in side or rear yards nor four feet in height when erected within 25 feet of the street or highway pavement.

B. All such fences and walls shall conform additionally to the requirements of Article IV, Section 14, Part C, as it pertains to corner lots.

C. All such fences and walls shall be measured from the ground level at the base of the fence or wall, except that if there is a retaining wall, the height shall be measured from the average of the ground levels at each end of said retaining wall.

Article IV, Section 14, Part C

Corner lots. At all street intersections, no obstruction to vision, other than an existing building, post, column or tree, exceeding 30 inches in height above the established grade of the street at the property line shall be erected or maintained on any lot within the triangle formed by the street lot lines of such lot and a line drawn between the points along such street lot lines 30 feet distant from their points of intersection.

TREES AND SHRUBS

As an alternative to a fence or wall, the Department of Planning encourages residents to consider landscaping the edge of their property with appropriate tree or shrub species. The Department of Public Works will assist owners with planting and any associated payments will be directed to the City's Street Fund for maintenance costs.

According to Chapter 163, Article 1, Part D:

Owners desiring to have trees planted along the sidewalk in front of their property may, upon application to the Commissioner of Public Works and payment to the City Treasurer of the cost thereof, which shall be credited to the Street Fund, have trees furnished, planted and provided with guards by the Commissioner of Public Works.

Interested parties should contact the Department of Public Works for additional information and approvals.