

Construction Fencing Information

In accordance with
City of Ottawa's Building By-law No. 2014-220

Construction Fencing Requirements Effective June 18, 2014:

The City of Ottawa's By-law No. 2014-220, Part XII, stipulates that *Construction Fencing* **must** be provided to enclose the area where a building is under construction, alteration, demolition, incomplete or abandoned as well as any site in close proximity to spaces where the public may congregate.

LOCATION OF FENCING: The fence must be structurally sound and fully surround all of the site's activities.

HEIGHT OF FENCING: When the site is located 3.0 metres or less from a public pathway or where the public congregates, the fence must be at least **1.8 metres** high measured from grade outside of the enclosure. The fence height may be reduced to a minimum of **1.2 metres** high only if the activity involves a residential building of no more than 3 storeys and is also located more than 3.0 metres from an adjacent public walkway.

EXCEPTIONS: There are certain circumstances where the construction fencing requirement may be exempted. The owner/permit holder **must** obtain confirmation from the Building Official noted on the Building Permit prior to applying these exceptions. These activity site conditions may be:

- **Low Hazard Areas/Areas of Low Human Occupancy:**
 - large lots in the rural areas where the neighbouring properties are sufficiently far apart, and the public does not have any reason to frequent the site.
 - where a Greenfield development site is under the control and constant supervision by the Builder/Developer during operations, day and night.
 - when the Greenfield development is in the early phases with relatively low human occupancy, the perimeter of the subdivision site may not be required to be secured.
- **Site Activities Are Contained Within Secured Premises:** These may be renovations, alterations, partial demolition inside an existing building where the openings into the building are secure when the site is not attended.
- **Activity Has Progressed To A Stage That No Longer Requires Protection**
- **Existing Fencing Is In Good Order and Already In Place**

CONSTRUCTION SPECS: There are several acceptable options for the fencing that the property owner/permit holder may elect to construct. These are:

- 12.5mm** thick exterior grade plywood, wafer board or OSB, close boarded
- PVC plastic mesh safety fence supported top and bottom
- galvanized chain link
- prefabricated modular fencing of welded metal frame with wire mesh infill
- combination of the above with equivalent performance level
- smooth exterior face to deter climbing
- no openings in the fence that will allow a spherical object of **100mm** to pass through
- gated entry/exits must be clearly identified and securely closed and locked during off hours
- the fence must comply with the applicable OSHA provisions for "*Public Way Protection*" where applicable

Questions concerning the above should be directed to the Building Official noted on the Building Permit.