OVERVIEW OF FENCING/WALL REQUIREMENTS

- Fences are permitted, subject to an applicant applying for and receiving a Zoning Permit and subject to the following restrictions and regulations:

- Fences in the front yard may not exceed four (4) feet in height, except along expressways and arterial roads, where fences may not exceed six (6) feet in height; an expressway being the Route 611 Bypass, and arterial roads being routes 611, 313 and 413.

- The height of a fence is measured from the mean ground level surrounding the fence or wall.

- Fences may not be constructed in the clear sight triangle; in any portion of the street right of way; in a public easement; or in any portion of an easement where the easement agreement prohibits fences.

- Fences in the side or rear yards may not exceed six (6) feet in height.

- Fences surrounding tennis courts or sports courts may not exceed twelve (12) feet in height; may not be located in any portion of the required front yard; and can only be constructed of wire type fencing.

- Fences associated with agriculture or horticultural uses do not require a permit.

- Retaining walls necessary to hold back slopes are exempted from the regulations for this Section and are permitted when approved by a professional engineer licensed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

- An area where a dog or dogs are kept must be suitably enclosed with a fence, if the dogs are not chained. This area may not be in the required front or rear yard and must be at least twenty (20) feet from any adjacent dwelling.

- All non-commercial swimming pools designed to contain water depth of 24 inches or more for use of the residents and their guests require fencing. Please call the Code Enforcement Office for details.

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• A zoning permit shall be required to locate, construct or maintain a noncommercial swimming pool.

• A swimming pool and appurtenant equipment may be located within a minimum side or rear yard setback but shall not be located closer than 10 feet from any side or rear lot line.

• The pool may be lighted by underwater or exterior lights, or both, provided all exterior lights are located so that the light is neither directed nor reflected upon adjacent properties in such a manner as to be a nuisance or an annoyance to these properties. Underwater lighting shall be in compliance with the applicable National Electrical Code.

• A fence around the pool yard shall be provided in conformance with the Township’s Building Code (Chapter 5, Part 1). A three-foot-high fence with vertical guards spaced four inches center to center with a self-latching gate shall be provided along the top of the pool liner for an above-ground pool unless the entire pool is located within a fenced yard which is in conformance with the fencing requirements for an in-ground pool per the Township’s Building Code (Chapter 5, Part 1).

Remember, a Zoning Permit is required before you erect a fence. The Code Enforcement Department is available to assist you with questions regarding Zoning and Building Permit requirements. Please contact the Township Office for specific help with your property.