

### **Q. Can I put up a fence in my yard now?**

Yes, but only with prior approval from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) and in accordance with the new policy.

### **Q. Are privacy fences allowed?**

**Not generally.** Full privacy fencing is not allowed except for **limited use** to screen specific features such as **hot tubs, patios, or service areas**, and only **with ACC approval**. These panels must be directly adjacent to what they are screening.

### **Q. What if my neighbor already has a different kind of fence?**

That may be a **legacy fence** — one installed under previous rules. Legacy fences are allowed to remain, but if they undergo **major repairs or replacement**, they must be brought into compliance with the new policy.

### **Q. Do I need my neighbor's approval to install a fence?**

You are **required to notify adjacent neighbors in writing**, but you only need **written permission** if you plan to **connect your fence to theirs**.

### **Q. Can I install an invisible (electronic) dog fence?**

**Yes.** Invisible fences do **not require ACC approval**, but they must be installed **entirely within your property** and be **at least 10 feet from sidewalks or public rights-of-way**.

### **Q. What is a “living fence”?**

A **living fence** is a row of shrubs, hedges, or dense plantings that can serve as a **natural privacy screen**. These are encouraged as an alternative to solid privacy fencing and do **not require ACC approval**, though placement should still follow neighborhood guidelines.

### **Q. What happens if someone installs a fence without approval?**

Fences installed without ACC approval or in violation of the policy may be subject to **enforcement**, including **fines or removal at the homeowner's expense**.

### **Q. Is the existing perimeter fence around the neighborhood affected?**

**No.** Fencing along the **outer boundaries of the neighborhood** (e.g., Washburn Way) is **exempt** from the privacy fence restrictions and considered part of the community design.

### **Q. Will fences increase or decrease home values in High Point Estates?**

Fences can have **both positive and negative effects** on home value. A well-designed, well-maintained fence (especially wrought iron-style) may **enhance individual property value** by offering security and appeal to pet owners or families and maintain the open feel of High Point Estates. However, too many inconsistent (as we have today) or poorly maintained fences may **diminish the open aesthetic** of the neighborhood and potentially **reduce overall community value**.

### **Q. How will fencing impact dogs barking?**

The City of Madison has an existing ordinance to address nuisance dog barking (**Section 24.04(4)**) which can be an issue with invisible fences, tie outs, and open windows today. We encourage neighbors to be courteous and **avoid prolonged or frequent barking**, especially during early morning or evening hours. A little consideration goes a long way in keeping the peace.