

## **Building Dividing Fences**

### **Dividing Fences-Residential**

A dividing fence is a fence that separates the residential land of different owners whether the fence is on the common boundary of adjoining lands or on a line other than the common boundary. For fencing requirements between lots other than residential lots contact the Shire of Murray's Planning and Development Services on 9531 7777.

Should an owner seek to construct a dividing fence they must meet their obligations as defined in the Dividing Fences Act 1961 prior to construction of a fence.

The Shire of Murray does not administer the Dividing Fences Act 1961. An online brochure "Dividing Fences Rights & Responsibilities" can be obtained from the Department of Commerce Building Commission website [www.bc.wa.gov.au/dividingfences](http://www.bc.wa.gov.au/dividingfences) or by phoning the Department on 1300 720 715 or email contact: [dividingfences@bc.wa.gov.au](mailto:dividingfences@bc.wa.gov.au)

A dividing fence may also be a "Front Fence" in some instances, and as such must comply the requirements for front fences.

### **Front Fences - Single Residential**

#### **What is a front fence?**

A front fence includes a wall, screen, and may include a retaining wall (max. 500mm high) or the like abutting a street boundary or located in the front setback area of a lot.

#### **When is Council approval required?**

When a proposed fence exceeds 750mm in height.

In some instances a building licence may be required while in other situations a building licence and development approval may be required.

In all instances all fencing materials must comply with the Shire of Murray Local Laws.

A front fence may also be a dividing fence between different properties. In such situations the Dividing Fences Act 1961 may be applicable.