

CLIMAX TOWNSHIP
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ORDINANCE NO. 151

ADOPTED: APRIL 14, 2026

EFFECTIVE: MAY 2, 2026

ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

This Ordinance is to amend the Climax Township Zoning Ordinance regarding fencing and screening regulations in the Township; to provide for severability; to repeal all ordinances in conflict and to establish an effective date.

CLIMAX TOWNSHIP
KALAMAZOO COUNTY

ORDAINS:

SECTION I
AMENDMENT TO SECTION 4

Section 4 of the Climax Township Zoning Ordinance is amended to add a definition for fence reading as follows:

FENCE: A fence is a permanent or temporary barrier of sound construction to serve as an enclosure of an area of land, property boundary identification or visual screen.

SECTION II
AMENDMENT TO SECTION 9.6

Section 9.6 of the Climax Township Zoning Ordinance is amended to read as follows:

9.6 FENCING AND SCREENING:

Fencing: Within any residential district ("A", "R-1", "R-2", "R-3", "R-4" "R-5" and "R-6"), the maximum height for any fencing in the front yard shall be four feet and in the side and rear yards the maximum height shall be six feet. Fencing within the front yard shall be limited to chain link, wood (such as split rail or picket) or commercially available fencing material in order to maintain visibility for vehicular or pedestrian movement. A corner lot shall be considered to have two front yards. Opaque fencing may be used within the side and rear yards provided it is composed of commercially available fencing material. The finished side of a fence must face outward toward adjacent property. All fences are required to have a zoning permit issued by the Township to determine compliance with this ordinance prior to placement of the fence. Application for a zoning permit must be accompanied by an attestation that the fence will be located entirely on the applicant's property.

Within any commercial district or industrial district, the maximum height for any fencing in the front yard shall be six feet and in the side and rear yards the maximum height shall be eight

feet. The use of barbed wire shall be subject to review and approval by the Planning Commission during site plan review.

All fences shall be maintained in a good condition similar to their condition at the time of original construction. All deteriorated or missing sections shall be replaced.

Screening: Except as otherwise provided in this Zoning Ordinance, all commercial or industrial uses shall be screened from an adjoining use located in any residential district by either a wall, fence or landscaping (or combination) to achieve an opaque screen of at least six feet in height. The Planning Commission may waive or reduce this requirement or specify the type of screening to be utilized during site plan review.

SECTION III **SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any clause, sentence, word, section or provision is hereafter declared void or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the remainder of such ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION IV **REPEALER AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect 8 days after publication, after adoption, as required by law.

Sarah DeBoer, Clerk
Township of Climax