

## **INFORMATION ABOUT LINE FENCES**

### **What is a line fence?**

A line fence, also known as a division fence, is any fence marking the boundary between an owner's property and a neighbouring property.

### **Do you have a dispute with your neighbour over a fence?**

Neighbouring property owners may disagree about the need to build a fence, what type of fence to build, or whether an existing fence needs to be reconstructed. If you live in the urban area, the Loyalist Township Fence By-law will apply. If you live in a rural area, the Line Fences Act applies.

### **Fence By-law questions**

Regulations for the height, materials, and other issues are outlined in Loyalist Township's Fence By-law.

### **What is the Line Fences Act?**

The Line Fences Act is Provincial legislation administered by Loyalist Township

The Township has an impartial arbitration process authorized by the Line Fences Act to help resolve line fence disputes.

### **Who is involved in this arbitration process?**

A Fence Viewer is an impartial third party appointed by Loyalist Township to resolve line fence disputes. Three Fence Viewers visit the site and study the location of the proposed fence or examine the state of the existing fence. They discuss the issues with the owners separately. The Fence Viewers then leave and make their decision. The Township Clerk sends the decision, known as the "Award", to the owners involved.

**What does the award specify?**

- The location of the fence
- The description of the fence, including the materials to be used and the maximum height of the fence
- Who will pay for the construction and/or maintenance of the fence
- When the work should be started and completed
- Who will pay the fence viewing arbitration
- Any other factors they consider relevant

**Can I appeal the Fence Viewers' Award?**

Yes. An appeal must be filed within fifteen (15) days after the Fence Viewers' Award is received. The fee to file an appeal is \$50, payable to the Treasurer of Ontario.

**Where can I get more information?**

Contact the Loyalist Township Clerk

[bhamilton@loyalist.ca](mailto:bhamilton@loyalist.ca)