

Inspections

The following inspections are required for residential retaining walls:

Footing

The footing inspection is required to check the base on which the wall is setting and the location of the wall on the lot.

Geo-grid

This inspection is required to check placement of the grid, if necessary, and that all engineering requirements are per approved plans.

Final

This inspection will check that the wall is built and graded per the approved plans.

The permit applicant is responsible to call for all required inspections. Construction must not lapse for longer than 6 months to maintain a valid permit.

**Schedule inspections:
(314) 835-6130
Permits@desperesmo.org**

Inspections called in by 4:00 p.m. will be on the next business day's schedule.

The City of Des Peres's Public Works Department supports and encourages every resident's decision to improve their home. Approval of plans and inspection of work being done helps ensure your home improvement project meets minimum code requirements while improving your property.

City permit approval does not constitute subdivision approval. The city recommends you contact trustees in your subdivision for any subdivision requirements.

This is a general guide for the installation of retaining walls within the City of Des Peres, Mo. All requirements are not listed. For further information please contact Public Works at (314) 835-6130.



Residential Retaining Wall Guide

**City of Des Peres, Missouri
Public Works Department
12325 Manchester Road
Des Peres, MO, 63131
(314) 835-6130**

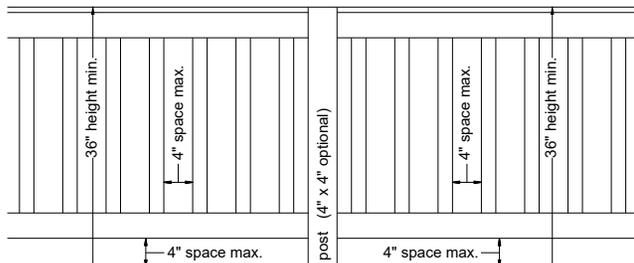
www.desperesmo.org

Walls Requiring a Permit

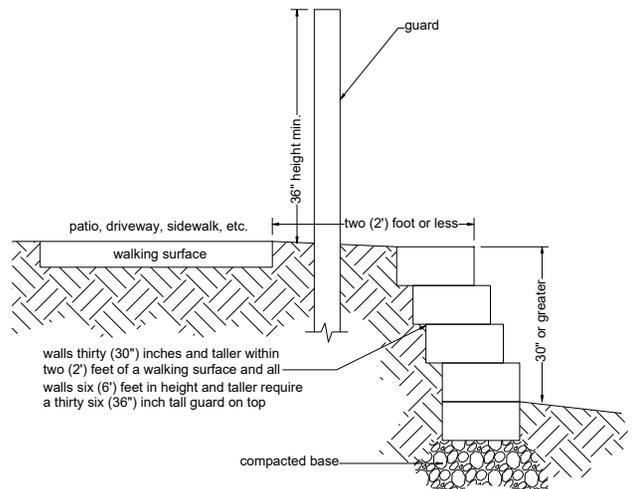
A permit is required in the City of Des Peres if any of the following conditions are proposed:

- ❑ The wall is 4' or greater in height. Height is measured from the bottom of the base to the top of the wall.
- ❑ Multi-tiered walls over 4' in total height of all walls proposed will require site specific engineering design.
- ❑ The wall supports an additional load (driveway, pool, or other structure) will require site specific engineering design.

Guard Detail



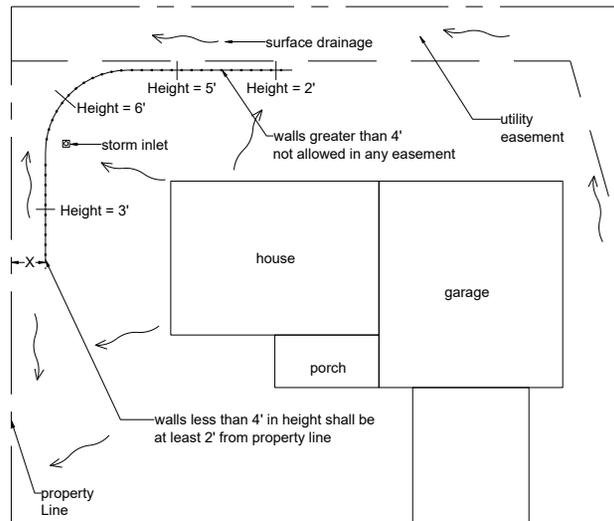
Generic example, alternate materials and designs may be acceptable



Obtaining a Permit

- ❑ Submit one copy of the plot plan showing existing structures, the wall and its distance to the lot lines and easements and other structures.
- ❑ Plot plan must show storm water drainage (use arrows to indicate flow of water). The wall cannot obstruct any swale or natural water run-off.
- ❑ Indicate the height of the wall at reasonable intervals along the length of the wall.
- ❑ Submit two copies of the engineered drawings.

Site Plan Example



Construction Guidelines

- ❑ Many local manufacturers, suppliers and contractors have pre-engineered and designed modular block and stone wall systems so that the homeowner/contractor can easily plan their project. Pre-engineered wall plans have a limited design height and loading. Consult with your modular block supplier for plans and cross-sectional drawings that match your design. Retaining walls of greater height, having greater loading and walls of different materials than those of the pre-engineered walls must be designed by a Missouri Licensed Professional Engineer. The construction plans must have an original seal and signature of the professional along with the calculations.
- ❑ Walls forty eight (48) inches and higher will not be allowed in the utility easements.
- ❑ Walls thirty (30) inches and taller within two (2) feet of a walking surface require a thirty six (36) inch tall guard on top that complies with the IRC guard requirements.
- ❑ Storm water will not be allowed to flow over the retaining wall. The flow shall go around the wall or in an approved surface drain on top of the wall.