

CITY OF DE PERE

Building Inspection

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How to Locate My Lot Lines

How do I find my property lines?

The City of De Pere Interactive Mapping Engine ([DIME](#)) is a good tool that will show the dimensions of your lot and where survey pins may be found. Surveying pins are located at the corners of your property. The front corner pins may be found adjacent to and on the interior property setback, six inches from the sidewalk or a similar distance from the road edge where no sidewalk exists. Property stakes are typically 1-inch diameter pipe, sometimes buried into the ground so you may not find them on the surface.

Will the City locate my property stakes for me?

The City does not locate property boundaries. While fences, power poles and public walks may give you a general idea of where your property lines are located, they are not always accurate indicators. Per the City's fence ordinance, fences may be located on property lines, but the previous owner may have erected them well inside the line. Moreover, lots are not always uniform in size, and it should not be assumed that your property lines will line up with the lot lines of adjoining properties. If you cannot locate the original survey pins, the only accurate way to find or replace them is to hire a land surveyor.

Why is it important to know your property line?

When buying a property, part of the process involves receiving survey information about the boundary lines of the property. However, over time, changes to the landscape often can present less clear visions of property lines. Knowing the boundary lines of your property could help you avoid:

1. Being forced to alter or remove structures that extend over the property line.
2. Being forced to remove or move landscaping that encroach or extend over the property line.
3. Neighbor disputes.
4. Fines.
5. Lawsuits.

Properties that border parks, designated green space, conservancies or government lands can also present situations that are not correctly interpreted by homeowners. Some homeowners assume that since the adjacent land will not be developed, it is okay to extend fences, or erect sheds, on that land. This assumption could lead to serious consequences for homeowners.

Examples of situations when it is important to know property line locations:

- If you plan to build a new structure.
- If you plan to construct an addition to an existing structure.
- If you plan to erect a fence, pool or deck.
- If you disagree with your neighbor on the property line location.
- If you plan to plant, trim or remove a tree or bush near your property line.