



May 11, 2023

Dear homeowner/HOA representative,

Last year, Canton made changes to its residential permitting process and no longer requires HOA approval prior to issuing any permits from our Building and Inspections Services Division. Although Canton adheres to property ordinances adopted by the governing body of the township, they do not override covenants and restrictions established by each HOA.

Canton has over 230 HOAs, and each have their own covenants and restrictions that require specific regulations for things like solar panel placement, swimming pools, fences and other exterior modifications/enhancement. It is important that residents first check with their HOA to make sure a project meets all subdivision requirements. Unfortunately, Canton cannot issue permit refunds for permits reviewed, issued and then cancelled due to violations of HOA requirements.

For instance, a six-foot wooden privacy fence does not violate any of Canton's property ordinances. However, your subdivision's covenants and restrictions may only allow wrought iron or aluminum fences that are no more than four-feet high. Based on our township ordinance, Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division would review and issues a permit for the six-foot fence but if it's in violation of your subdivision's covenant and restrictions, they may require the fence be removed at the homeowner's expense.

Any questions or concerns regarding this processing change can be directed to 734/394-5200, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. You may also email us at municipalservices@cantonmi.gov.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Robert Creamer
Building Official
Canton Township

