

Dated: 14 September 2021

Per a recent ruling of the Zoning Board of Appeals at the September 9, 2021 ZBA hearing, fence screening is a material that meets the requirement of the following statement shown in Section 3.09.11 Titled “Residential Fences” of the Williams Township Zoning Ordinance. This statement says “All residential fences shall be constructed of good quality materials ordinarily and customarily used for fencing and be compatible with other fence styles existing in the immediate vicinity; and shall have the finished side facing away from the interior of the lot and the pole side facing the interior of the lot”. This ruling allows fence screening to be included in the definition of “quality materials ordinarily and customarily used for fencing materials”.

The ruling in effect states, a fence can be installed with the pole side facing to the outside (neighbors’ side) if fence screening is used to cover the poles on that side. This ruling becomes the official position of Williams Township as to that provision per the Zoning Board of Appeals Hand Book. [(Section 29 Titled “Interpretations” Item “d”)].

As stated in the second paragraph of the “Forward” Section of the handbook, the handbook gives an explanation of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act.

If you need further clarification of this ruling, please call the Zoning Administrator at 989-662-2675.