

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 27 2025**

Aug 17, 2025

**WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP**

Dear Zoning Board, Township Supervisors, and whomever else it may concern,

Thank you for taking the time to review and consider our request for a fence variance.

Our family would like to enclose a portion of our yard with 8-foot agricultural fencing consisting of round wooden posts and woven wire.

Since moving to the township three years ago in August of 2022, our four children have experienced a handful of disturbing encounters with wildlife. In particular, we have had 2 instances of mutilated deer in the yard (we suspect were attacked by coyote) as well as 2 other instances of mutilated birds (we suspect geese or a neighbor's chicken attacked by foxes).

Further, the children have been unable to enjoy the full extent of the yard because of the animal scat that is increasingly present near their play structure.

Our landscaping crew has also noted a sharp increase in ticks this year. We suspect this is due to deer being attracted to the additional vegetation we have planted since moving in. Our kids have had several tick bites which can be alarming given the Lyme diseases that can easily be passed to the children.

In addition to our primary desire for our children to be able to fully enjoy their backyard, we would like to protect our agricultural efforts. We are undergoing a laborious vineyard/garden installation (figs, wine grapes, apples, asian pears, and blackberries) and have learned it can be incredibly difficult to yield a decent harvest despite even the best professional measures of deer protection.

The 8-foot fencing we are proposing is predominantly limited to our backyard area. Our existing fence along the front of our property is only 4-5 feet high and is a custom hand-made wrought iron fence with solid bronze tips of heirloom quality.

We believe an 8-foot agricultural fence to protect the backyard and a small portion of the front side yard where the children's slide/swingset/sports is located does not pose any inconvenience or unsightliness to the community as it is not noticeable from the street.

Attached, is an satellite image of our property with the proposed location highlighted in red. Also, attached is an example of what the fence material/construction would look like (6-inch round wooden posts with woven wire)

Thank you for your consideration.

We have enjoyed living at our new home the past 3 years and look forward to many more years to come.

Best,

Diana, Alonzo, Zito, Zeta, Zuriya, and Zella

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