Retaining Walls

Landscape Block Walls

Blocks must have locking flanges and should not be taller than 30" above grade at the tallest point, unless manufacturer's installation specifications allow for a taller wall. Supporting documents must be supplies with permit application for landscape block walls taller than 30".

Landscape Timber

Walls shall not be taller than 36" above grade at the tallest point. A compact level base of rock at least 6" thick shall be provided. Timbers must be placed in an overlapping brick pattern with corners interlocked. Timber shall be fastened together with galvanized nails or rebar at least 7" in length. The backside of the wall shall be backfilled with clean rock to provide proper drainage. Larger walls may require drain tile installation.

Railroad Tie Walls

Railroad ties are the only used materials allowed for construction projects on campsites at Otter Lake. A level solid base of compacted rock at least 8" deep shall be provided. 3/8" rebar (or larger) 18" long shall be driven through predrilled holes (the same diameter as the rebar) every 24" of the first row of railroad ties. Ties above the first shall be laid in an overlapping pattern with corners interlocked. Each tie will have rebar at least 3/8" in diameter and at least 12" long driven through the tie below spaced no more than 36" apart. Deadman shall be installed in any wall over 3 ties high. Deadman shall be made of the same size ties as the wall. The end of the deadman tie located away from the wall shall sit on top of a short tie running parallel to the wall, connected with rebar. The length of the deadman tie may vary with the height of the wall. Taller walls will require longer and more deadman. Deadman shall be installed at a spacing between 6' and 8' apart. Deadman are required on at least every 3rd row of ties and should be installed in a staggered fashion. The backside of the wall shall be backfilled with clean rock to provide proper drainage. Larger walls may require drain tile installation. Tie walls may be built using the above specifications and substituting new 6" x 6" treated lumber.

Dimensional Lumber Walls

Retaining walls built with treated dimensional lumber shall only be used in areas where no more than 2 boards high will create a retaining wall of the desired height. Walls higher than 24" will not be allowed using dimensional lumber.

Retaining walls of any style may not be removed at the end of a lease agreement.

Permit application must include the following:

- 1. Materials to be used.
- 2. Fasteners to be used.
- 3. Height of finished wall.
- 4. Drawing of the proposed wall.
- 5. Backfill materials to be used.
- 6. Proposed start date.
- 7. Proposed completion date.





