

## RETAINING WALL GARDEN WALL BLOCK WALL

1. **Height:** The height of a wall is measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall.
2. **Surcharge:** Surcharge is defined as any extra vertical load above the top of the wall caused by sloped backfill, vehicular traffic or the weight of an adjacent structure.
3. **Building Permits** are required when:
  - a). Wall height is greater than or equal to four (4) feet (which includes footing)
  - b). Wall height is less than four (4) feet but a surcharge exists
4. Retaining walls requiring a building permit will be reviewed and approved by the Building Department. Three (3) sets of plans (24" X 36" maximum size) including a dimensioned plot plan and at least one structural section will be included.
5. The City of American Canyon does not allow wood retaining walls.