

SECTION 24 - 911 RURAL SIGNING ORDINANCE

A. INTENT AND PURPOSE

The purpose of these regulations is to provide for the establishment of an official plan for the implementation of "911" signing and to provide for the administration thereof. This ordinance has been designed to be compatible with the Enhanced 911 Emergency Telephone System established by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 403. The 911 Rural Signing Ordinance of Faribault County is hereby adopted pursuant to authority contained in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 394, commonly known as the County Planning and Zoning Enabling Legislation. The effective date of the herein ordinance is the date of adoption by the County Board.

B. APPLICABILITY

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to erect or construct a building within the confines of Faribault County without applying for and maintaining a 911 Rural Sign.

C. DEFINITIONS

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted so as to give them the same meaning as they have in common usage and to facilitate the most reasonable application of the ordinance.

- a. County. Faribault County, Minnesota
- b. 911 Rural Signing Ordinance Committee. The committee will be comprised of two County Commissioners; two members from the County Highway Department; County Planning and Zoning; and the Sheriff's Department.
- c. County Board. The Faribault County Board of Commissioners.
- d. County Engineer. The Registered Professional Engineer employed by the County unless otherwise stated.
- e. Emergency Services Agency, Public or Private. Any agency providing police, fire, rescue, or emergency medical services; whose service area boundaries are established by Minnesota Statute or the Commissioner of Public Safety, and which is dispatched through the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).
- f. Emergency Service Number or Area (ESN). The area included within the boundaries of a specified area served by a public or private emergency services agency(ies).
- g. Planning & Zoning Department. The organization of the Planning Commission and staff of the Planning & Zoning Department.

- h. Pedestrian Way. A public right-of-way across or within a block to be used by pedestrians.
- i. Person. Any individual, firm, association, syndicate or partnership, corporation trust, or any other legal entity.
- j. Right-of-Way. The land covered by a public road or other land dedicated for public use or for certain private use such as land over which a power line passes.
- k. Sub-divider. Any person proceeding under the ordinance to effect a subdivision of land for themselves or for another.
- l. Subdivision. A platted development of small lots, out lots, and streets approved by the County Board and recorded in the County Recorder's office that may not be based on a generalized base of grid pattern street systems.
- m. Utilities. Shall refer to all utility service providers, whether the same be government owned facilities or furnished by private utility companies.

D. EXEMPTIONS

- a. Bare farmland will be exempt from 911 numbering and signing.

E. GENERAL STANDARDS

- a. Faribault County shall charge back to each township the cost of sign/post relating to the initial procurement and installation of the numbering system located within each township in the year of 2004. The property owner for residential signs shall pay for replacement costs or new installations from the effective date of the herein ordinance on the date of adoption by the County Board.
- b. All persons, firms, corporations, and other legal entities constructing new structures in unincorporated areas of the County, shall obtain an address notification form, issued by the office of Planning & Zoning Department.
- c. No utility company operating in the county shall furnish its utility services to any new structure until it has been issued a valid address by the office of Planning & Zoning Department.
- d. The office of Planning & Zoning Department shall furnish the applicant with sufficient copies of the address notification form. The office of Planning & Zoning Department will notify the Faribault County Law Enforcement Center representatives for 911 updates and the Faribault County Highway Department. The applicant must notify the United States Post office, telephone service, Faribault County Assessor's Department, and Faribault County Auditor- Treasurer's Department and the utility companies as needed. The office of Planning & Zoning Department shall maintain a record of all addresses issued.

- e. In the event that a building site is removed for whatever reason the property owner is responsible to notify the County Planning & Zoning Department. Planning & Zoning will notify the County Highway Department to remove the 911 Rural Address Sign. Failure to notify the Planning & Zoning Department will constitute a disregard of this ordinance will follow the same guidelines as determined in the Compliance Section.

F. IMPLEMENTATION

The Faribault County Sheriff's Department by authority of the County Board of Commissioners shall administer the Rural Addressing Ordinance. The Planning Commission, Faribault County Law Enforcement Center, Faribault County Highway Department, Faribault County Assessor's Department, Faribault County Attorney's Office and the Faribault County Auditor-Treasurer's Department shall provide technical assistance to the Planning & Zoning Department.

- a. Within a reasonable period of time after the receipt or notification of such number, a sign or number post shall be erected by the Highway Department. This sign will be of the conditions or descriptions as set forth in Section I of the Faribault County Zoning Ordinance. If in the case of a new subdivision being approved for house signs the following conditions or description will be as set forth in Section I of the Faribault County Zoning Ordinance.
- b. The applicant shall remove any different number or signs that might be mistaken for or confused with the number assigned to said structure by the issuing authority.
- c. The applicant shall assume costs of individual rural address numbers and other related signing materials. (except the initial cost which was absorbed by the townships). The applicant shall pay the costs for 911 signing materials to Planning & Zoning Department as part of the building permit fee. These fees are set forth by the County Commissioners yearly.

G. COMPLIANCE

- a. All persons, firms, corporations, and other legal entities constructing new structures in unincorporated areas of the county, shall obtain an address notification form, issued by the office of the Planning & Zoning Department. Coordinates shall be verified and addresses issued by the office of Planning & Zoning Department as part of the construction permit issuance process when application is made to locate a new residence or other commercial venture within the County.
- b. No utility company operating in the county, shall furnish its utility services to any new structure until it has been issued a valid address by the office of the Planning & Zoning Department.

- c. When a new subdivision plat is recorded or whenever a new road is established by other means it shall be the responsibility of the sub-divider or individual petitioning to establish the road to provide a sign which conforms to the County Design and Placement Standards for street signs as set forth in this ordinance. It shall be determined if a new subdivision plat is to have individual house numbers or street signs. 911 Rural Signing Ordinance Committee shall determine the means of 911 signing to new subdivisions.
- d. In the event that the owner or occupant or person in charge of any house or building refuses to comply with the terms of this ordinance said owner or occupant shall be subject to criminal penalties by legal means deemed under this ordinance.
- e. Every owner of a structure shall be responsible to maintain the original location as placed by the County Highway Department in this ordinance. It will be the responsibility of every owner to maintain visual sight of the 911 sign in all directions. The sign must remain clear of weeds, brush, trees, etc.
- f. The cost of replacement if destroyed by accident will be solely that of the landowner.
- g. Willful disregard or repeated violation of the ordinance after written notice of the violation and failure to perform the duties described in (d.) and (e.) may result in the criminal prosecution as a misdemeanor as defined by Minnesota Statutes.
- h. The owner of the structure will be notified in writing that missing or illegible signs must be replaced within ten (10) days after written notice requesting such replacement. The County Highway Department should be contacted if Gopher One assistance is required to return the sign to the correct location. After the ten (10) day notice has expired the owner of the property will be notified in writing of the failure to comply with the terms of this ordinance and shall be assessed all cost for any work by county employees, necessary to comply with this ordinance. The replacement of the sign will be performed by the County Highway Department within (60) days of the second notice. Criminal penalties by legal means will also be implemented at this time as stated in (g).

H. SIGNING

- a. The County Board shall adopt a standard for 911 Rural Sign design and a standard for sign placement as designated by this ordinance. Said adopted Sign Design Standard shall be designated as:
 - 1. Steel U-shaped channel post shall conform to SP 80 ASTM 1-91# rail minimum, ST100 and shall have a minimum yield tensile strength of 60,000 psi. The posts shall have a unit weight of 1.12 lb. per foot and be manufactured from hot-dip galvanized steel conforming to ASTM A-525 or AASHTO M-120 coating requirements. All posts shall have 7/16-inch diameter pre-drilled or pre-punched holes on 1 inch centers for the full length of the post. Hole fabrication shall be performed prior to coating. Posts shall be eight (8) feet in length. Posts shall be driven four (4) feet into the ground.

2. Signs shall be fastened to posts with the appropriate sized stainless steel hex head cap screws and stainless steel nylon insert lock coarse thread nuts (nylon washers included). Two (2) fasteners and nylon washers per sign are required.
 3. Sign blanks shall be 0.080 inch aluminum flat blade. Blanks shall be made of aluminum conforming to ASTM B 209 for Alloy 5-052-H38 or 6061-T6 and the following:
 - Sign blanks shall be 6" X 16" and punched for one (1) post mounting for residential address signs. Sign mounting holes shall be 7/16-inch diameter and located one-half (½) inch from the top and bottom edge at one and onehalf (1-1/2) inches from one end of the blank.
 - All sign blanks shall be etched and degreased prior to the application of retro-reflective sheeting.
 - All sign blanks shall be completely free from defects including wind and twist.
 4. All retro-reflective sheeting applied to the blanks supplied for this project shall meet or exceed the requirements of High Intensity Grade and the following:
 - Colors shall be white numbers on a green background without a border.
 - All numbers shall be 4 inch Upper Case Series C.
 - Fabrication of sign faces may be screen print, by pre-cut characters or by colored transparent overlay film.
 - Signs shall be double faced so the residential number is visible from both sides.
- b. The County Board shall adopt a standard for 911 House Number Signs as designated by this ordinance for subdivisions. Said adopted 911 House Number Sign Design Standard shall be designated as:
1. A minimum of a seven (7) inch in height with a color contrast to the color of the house.
 2. Each 911 House Number must be in Arabic numerals.
 3. The cost for this 911 House Number Sign will be entirely the responsibility of the homeowner.

I. SIGN PLACEMENT

- a. The placement of the 911 Rural Sign will be as follows:
 1. Placement at the discretion of the Faribault County Highway Department.
 2. Must be visible from both sides of the sign on the right of way.
- b. The placement of the 911 House Number Sign will be as follows:
 1. Each owner of the building in the subdivision must post the correct 911 house number of the building in a conspicuous place on the front of the building.
 2. The numbers must be lighted or of a reflective material.
 3. The numbers must be posted on the building surface nearest the street or avenue.
 4. These numerals must be at a height and position so that the numerals can be easily read by a person of normal vision while seated in an emergency vehicle located in the street.