

# Rural Addressing

## Assigning Addresses and Posting Emergency Number Signs

### Emergency Number Signs

As authorized by State Statute, Goodhue County has an ordinance that establishes a *rural identification system* and regulates emergency numbers. The purpose of the ordinance is to minimize loss of life and property by enabling and facilitating emergency responders in finding and accessing County sites in need of emergency assistance.



### New Addresses

Goodhue County Emergency Management Division assigns new addresses in the unincorporated areas of the County. Property owners stake-out the location of the driveway and provide the information on a detailed site plan or survey. The location of the driveway is measured; the measurement is used to calculate the emergency number. Typically, this process follows approval of a County Building Permit for a new structure at a new site location.

### Construction Project Inspections

In addition to the County Ordinance on Rural Addressing, Building Codes require approved numbers and addresses for all new buildings/structures. When there is a construction project approved by a County Building Permit, the construction inspections include verification of compliance with rules for addresses. **At the First Inspection, a project must have adequate temporary addressing. At the Final Inspection, a project must be in conformance with all numbering and addressing requirements.**

### Signage Requirements

**Emergency Numbers must conform to Building Code requirements.**

- Letters or numbers must be a minimum of three (3) inches in height with a minimum stroke of one-half (.5) inch and in a color that is in contrast to the background color.
- Letters or numbers must be clearly visible and legible from the street or roadway fronting the property.

**Emergency Number Signs must conform to the requirements of the Rural Addressing Ordinance.**

- The owner shall apply for and purchase a Goodhue County Emergency Number.
- The Goodhue County Emergency Number shall be a red reflectorized sign with the county address strip affixed to it.
- The owner shall display and maintain the Goodhue County Emergency Number at three (3) to five (5) feet above ground at four (4) to ten (10) feet from the roadway and from an existing driveway.
- The owner shall display and maintain the Goodhue County Emergency Number to be legible and visible from the public road.

### Obtaining Emergency Number Signs

Goodhue County Emergency Number signs are obtained from the Emergency Management Division of the Sheriff's Office. To purchase your emergency number sign from the County, send the items listed below to the Emergency Management Division.

- A **check** for \$20.00 payable to Goodhue County;
- The **number** that is to be put on the sign; and
- The **address** where you want to have the sign mailed.

Mail the above items to: **Goodhue County Emergency Management**  
**430 West Sixth Street**  
**Red Wing, Minnesota 55066**



### Questions?

- You may direct questions about rural addressing and emergency numbers to Emergency Management Division at 651.267.2640.
- You may direct questions about building inspections to the Land Use Management Department at 651.385.3114.