

17.00 MARQUETTE COUNTY RURAL ADDRESS ORDINANCE

17.01 Introduction

- 17.011 **Statutory Authorization.** This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authorization contained in Section 59.54(4),(4m) of the Wisconsin State Statutes.
- 17.012 **Statement of purpose.** The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote the health, safety, comfort and general welfare of the public by establishing a method for physically locating properties, which is vital for providing emergency services as well as a convenience for other services that serve rural properties.
- 17.013 **Intent.** The intent of this ordinance is to establish the method by which a rural address signs may be obtained by a property owner as well as how the rural address sign is installed and maintained.
- 17.014 **Abrogation and greater restrictions.** It is not otherwise intended by this Ordinance to repeal, abrogate, annul, impair, or interfere with any existing ordinances, rules, regulations, or rural addresses previously adopted or issued pursuant to law to the extent specified in this Ordinance.
- 17.015 **Severability.** If any section, clause, provision or portion of this Ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.
- 17.016 **Title.** This ordinance shall be known as, referred to and cited as the Marquette County Rural Address Ordinance.
- 17.017 **Effective date:** This ordinance shall be effective after adoption by the Marquette County Board of Supervisors and publication.

17.02 General Provisions

- 17.021 **Jurisdiction.** This ordinance shall be in effect in any unincorporated area of Marquette County after the Town Board has requested that the Zoning Administrator assign rural addresses in their town. A list of those towns shall be maintained by the Zoning Administrator.
- 17.022 **Address assignment.** It shall be the duty of the County Surveyor to assign a rural address number following a written request by a property owner to the Zoning Department. The County Surveyor shall maintain digital maps of the rural addressing for use by emergency services. The address assigned shall become the official address of the property and replace any prior address.

17.022(A) Properties served by a private access shall have a sign posted at the intersection of the public road and the private access indicating the range of rural addresses served by the access. Each property served by the access shall have an individual sign placed at the access for that property. Properties with more than one residence shall have a rural address for each residence.

17.023 **Fees and signs.** The fee for a rural address sign shall be established by the County Board of Supervisors and may be amended by the County Board when deemed necessary. A property owner shall submit the appropriate fee to the Zoning Administrator and a completed application when requesting a rural address sign. The Zoning Administrator shall obtain the required sign and arrange for its installation in a timely manner. The type, color and scheme of the sign shall be in accordance with the type of sign approved by the Town Board.

17.023(A) Any rural address not obtained through the Zoning Administrator in towns under the jurisdiction of this ordinance shall be deemed in a violation of this ordinance.

17.024 **Placement.** The rural address sign for a property shall be placed at the intersection of the public road and the access for the property. In the case of a private access for multiple properties, a sign indicating the range of addresses served by the access shall be placed at the intersection of the public road and the access. A sign shall then be placed at individual driveways at the point they intersect the private access.

17.025 **Maintenance.** After installation it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the rural address sign for his or her property. Maintenance shall include ordering a replacement sign if the sign is destroyed, repairs, clearing of vegetation and keeping the sign in a condition where it is easily visible and legible at any time.

17.03 **Enforcement and Penalties.**

17.031 **Procedure.** It shall be the duty of the Zoning Administrator to enforce the provisions of this ordinance, investigate violations and complaints and give notice of violations.

17.031(A) Initiation of legal action -In default of compliance with an Order for Abatement legal action shall be initiated against a violator by issuance of a citation under Ordinance 5.40, and referral to the Marquette County Corporation Counsel, or referral to the Corporation Counsel for issuance of a long form Summons and Complaint, in personam or in rem. The Corporation Counsel is hereby delegated the duty of prosecuting violations of this Ordinance. The Corporation

Counsel shall take steps to enforce this Ordinance and the Order for Abatement by prosecuting the violation, seeking imposition of a forfeiture penalty, and/or seeking appropriate injunctive relief to abate the Zoning Violation and enjoin its continuation in the future, and/or recovery of the costs of abatement.