



LINCOLN COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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E-911 ADDRESSING SYSTEM

Lincoln County is completing the process of changing address numbers and some road names throughout the County. This has been done in order to create a current and correct database for Enhanced-911 that will enable the County to facilitate the easy and rapid location of properties by law enforcement, fire protection services, search and rescue and emergency medical services to protect public health and safety of all persons living, working or visiting Lincoln County.

How have address numbers been issued?

In Lincoln County, we use the "Frontage Interval System" of addressing exercising a measured system based on actual road distance to determine your address number. Numbers are assigned at an interval of 1000 per mile; therefore, a structure located one mile down a road would have an address of 1000.

When this system was originally utilized, over 25 years ago, addresses were literally scaled from a paper map. For example, when a property owner came in and stated they lived 2 ½ miles up a road; they were given an address of 2500. Then, as other new address requests came in, they in turn would be scaled from the map using the original 2500 as a baseline. However, as the years passed, it was discovered that the original 2500 was not in fact 2 ½ miles up the road but perhaps 3 ¼ miles up the road. Thus creating a situation where all further addressing was off from the amount of distance in error from the first address on the road. Curd, yes; inefficient, yet; problematic, yes.

Because of current technology utilizing Global Positioning Systems (GPS), the new addressing program will correct years of addresses that have been erroneously issued because of "bad data" from the first address issued from any road. All existing and new access points are GPS'd to determine the most accurate point location possible. This point is then translated in a correct "mile marker" which determines the new address.

The E-911 readdressing project standardizes all addresses, thus enabling Lincoln County to correct addresses issued with bad information and to go forward in issuing new addressing with good information.

Why was my road name changed?

Duplicate road names and similar sounding names can cause serious life-threatening delays in response time by emergency service personnel. Some road names have been changed. Standardization is necessary to reduce the chance that response time for Enhanced-911 calls may be delayed if a location is not readily identifiable by the caller, dispatcher or emergency service personnel.

Why are some driveways and private easement roads being named?

We name private roads that have three or more structures. This provides for additional addresses as property owners develop their land, and eliminates the confusion with the connecting road numbers. Assigning a name to a private drive does not mean that Lincoln County will start maintaining the road or that the mail carrier will deliver mail to the houses on that road. It is still a private road; it just has an official road name to make location of emergency services easier.