

ADDRESSING AND ROAD NAMING ORDINANCE
FOR
DUPLIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

- ENACTMENT This ordinance establishes a uniform system for addressing, and road naming, and for the enforcement thereof.
- PREAMBLE WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Duplin County Board of Commissioners, a uniform system for addressing and road naming is required to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Duplin County, and
- WHEREAS, the Duplin County Board of Commissioners are desirous that this approach reflect the County's emphasis upon minimizing problems of identification for emergency and other services, and
- WHEREAS, all applicable requirements of the General Statutes of North Carolina have been met.
- NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DUPLIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
- SECTION 10. Authority
- The provisions of this ordinance are adopted under authority granted by the NC G.S. 153A-240.
- SECTION 20. Purpose and Intent
- The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to provide a uniform system of addresses for all properties and buildings throughout the County's jurisdiction in order to facilitate adequate public safety and decrease emergency response time.
- SECTION 30. Jurisdiction
- The jurisdiction of this ordinance includes the entire geographic areas of Duplin County are included in this ordinance as evidenced by a resolution from each town requesting to be included in this ordinance.
- SECTION 40. Numbering System
- On the property-numbering map, the **NORTH/SOUTH** base line is hereby designated as NC 11 beginning at the Pender County line and running north through Kenansville to NCSR 1004 and continuing north to the Wayne County line.
- The **EAST/WEST** base line is hereby designated as NC 24 beginning at the Sampson County line and running easterly through Kenansville to the Onslow County line. Frontage Unit (standard interval) shall be assigned for every 21.12 feet of ground whether improved property or vacant lot on every road/street within the entire geographical area of Duplin County. **Even** numbers must always be on the right side and **odd** on the left side of the street/road.

SECTION 50. Road Name Signs

Road name signs shall be assigned and installed for all roads, whether public or private, and at all intersections throughout the unincorporated areas of Duplin County, in accordance with G.S. 153A-240. Road name sign maintenance within municipalities will remain the responsibility of the municipality.

SECTION 60. Definitions

For the purpose of this ordinance the following terms shall be defined as specified below. Unless specifically defined, words or phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this ordinance the most reasonable application.

1. Base Line:

Can be defined as those lines which divide the county into identifiable sectors and which follow prominent major thoroughfares. In each case, one base line runs EAST/WEST and the other one, NORTH/SOUTH. Base lines intersect at a reference point.

2. Reference Point:

The reference point for the Duplin County Addressing System is hereby designated at the Duplin County Courthouse which is situated near the intersection of NC 24 and NC 11 in Kenansville, N.C.

3. Frontage Unit:

A frontage unit is a standard interval in feet used to assign consecutive property numbers on a street or road. The standard frontage unit adopted for use throughout Duplin is 21.12 feet.

4. Road:

A public or private one-way or two-way road for ingress and/or egress. Such roads may be of various types including frontage roads, rear access roads, roads with cul-de-sacs, and dead-end roads. This definition includes secondary roads, but does not include driveways.

5. Private Road:

Any road which is not maintained by the N. C. Department of Transportation and/or municipality through the use of public funds.

6. Official Road Names:

The road name list and the road name map on file with the Duplin County E-911 Data Management System is hereby declared the official road names and map for Duplin County Roads, unless changed by action of the County Commissioners.

7. Road Address:

The combination of numbers and road names assigned to a particular location by the Duplin County E-911 Coordinator, according to this ordinance, which uniquely identifies a particular location.

8. Driveways:

A private way, beginning at the property line of a lot abutting a public road, private road, easement or private right-of-way, giving access from that public road, private road or private right-of-way, leading to a building, use or structure on that lot.

SECTION 70. Naming or Renaming County Road:

1. Request for new names and name changes must include a completed petition signed by at least 50% plus one of the residents along the affected road.
2. Petition to change a road name must include a fee of \$25 per sign blade to cover cost of replacing signs in addition to \$100 to advertise public hearings. If the County Commissioners do not approve the request, only the sign cost will be refunded.
3. There is no fee for requesting names for unnamed public or private roads; however, the procedure is the same.
4. Petition applications may be obtained from the E-911 Coordinator, County Administration Building, 224 Seminary Street, P. O. Box 158, Kenansville, NC 28349-0158.
5. Petitions for road name change shall be considered annually during the 1st quarter by County Commissioners. Petitions for naming unnamed roads shall be considered as needed.
6. Petitions to name unnamed roads or to change a road name must be approved by the Fire Department Chief serving the affected area prior to being forwarded to the Duplin County Board of Commissioners.
7. The E-911 Coordinator will review requests to determine if all procedures are met, and to ascertain that the proposed name does not duplicate an existing name and also to ensure that the petition meets all other requirements of this Ordinance.

SECTION 80. New Road Names:

The Duplin County Planning Department is hereby authorized to prepare and present to the County Commissioners recommendations for the naming of all unnamed roads both public and private within the unincorporated area of Duplin County and to propose new names to eliminate duplications and sound alike names, and to present all petitions received to change the name of an existing road.

SECTION 90. Addressing:

1. All roads, both public and private, shall be named and addressed if two or more addressable structures, including mobile homes, are located on an accessed by them.

2. When each house or building has been assigned its respective address, the County E-911 Coordinator, in cooperation with the U.S. Postal Service shall notify the owners, or occupants, agents of affected house or building, or by letter advising of their new address.

SECTION 100. Display of Address Numbers:

1. The official address number must be displayed on the front of a building or at the entrance to a building which is most clearly visible from the street or road during both day and night.
2. If a building is more than 100 feet from any road, the address number shall be displayed at the end of the driveway or easement nearest the road which provides access to the building.
3. Numerals indicating the address number of a single family dwelling shall be at least three (3) inches in height and shall be posted and maintained so as to be legible from the road.
4. Numerals for multiple dwelling units and non-residential buildings shall be at least six (6) inches in height and shall be placed on the front of the building facing the road or on the end of the building nearest the road.
5. Numerals must be of contrasting color to the background.
6. Mobile home lots shall have sequential address numbers throughout the park. Each lot will have a separate address number assigned. The address number of each lot must be clearly displayed on the lot by being attached to the mobile home consistent with paragraph (1) above. No unit designator shall be allowed in the address of mobile homes.
7. The address shall be placed on existing buildings within thirty (30) days from the date of the letter of notification.

SECTION 110. New Addresses Assignment:

1. The owner or occupant or person in charge of any house or building in need of an address in the unincorporated area of Duplin County shall apply thru the County Building Inspector's Office.
2. No building permit shall be issued for any principal building until the owner or occupant has procured from the Building Inspector the official address of the premises.
3. Final approval for a certificate of occupancy of any principal building erected or repaired after the effective date of this ordinance shall be withheld until a permanent and proper address has been displayed in accordance with the requirements outlined in this Ordinance.

4. No Certificate of completion as required by the Duplin County Mobile Home Park Ordinance for mobile home parks shall be issued until address numbers are properly displayed.

SECTION 120. Ordinance Administrator:

1. The E-911 Coordinator is hereby designated Administrator of this Ordinance and shall have authority to verify, modify, or assign addresses and to enforce the requirements of this ordinance.
2. The Ordinance Administrator shall assign and maintain a record of all addresses for Duplin County.
3. The Ordinance Administrator shall maintain a database of existing road names, such that duplication and sound-alike road names are neither assigned nor approved.

SECTION 130. Amendments:

Petitions for amendment of this ordinance may be filed with the E-911 Coordinator by any citizen of the County, and county department or agency.

SECTION 140. Commissioners' Review:

The provisions and requirements of this ordinance may be amended by the County Commissioners according to the following procedure:

No amendment shall become effective unless it has been proposed by or shall have been reviewed by the E-911 Committee. The E-911 committee shall have 45 days in which to review the proposed amendment and to make recommendations to the Commissioners. If the E-911 Committee fails to report within 45 days it shall be deemed to have approved the proposed amendment.

SECTION 150. Variance and Exception:

The County Commissioners may issue variances and exceptions from the requirements of this ordinance such that would not be contrary to the public interest, or the spirit and intent of this ordinance, and where due to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship. In granting a variance, the County Commissioners may prescribe appropriate solutions as it deems necessary to preserve the intent of this Ordinance. In granting a variance of exception to this ordinance the County Commissioners must determine the following:

1. Special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the road naming or addressing involved and which are not applicable to other roads or addresses.
2. The literal interpretation of the provisions of this ordinance would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other citizens.
3. Special conditions and circumstances do not result from the actions of the applicant; and

- 4. Granting the variance requested will not confer on the applicant any special privilege that is denied by this ordinance to other citizens.

SECTION 160. Appeals:

The provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be minimum requirements adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and general welfare. Wherever the requirements of this ordinance differ with the requirements of any adopted county, state or federal regulations, the most restrictive or that imposing the highest standard shall govern.

SECTION 170. Enforcement:

After the effective date of this Ordinance, any person, firm or agent thereof who intentionally violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, for the conviction of which, the maximum penalty by law may be imposed. Each day's continuing violation is a separate and distinct offense.

SECTION 180. Limitation of Liability:

The County, directors, officers, and agents, are not liable for any damages in a civil action for injuries, death, or loss to persons or property incurred by any person as a result of any act or omission of any of its employees, directors, officers, or agents, except for willful or wanton misconduct, in connection with developing, adoption, implementing, maintaining, or operating any 911 system.

SECTION 190. Separability:

Should any section or provision of this ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid for any reason, such declaration shall not affect the ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof other than the part so declared to be invalid.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective and be in full force from and after the **1st day of July, 1993**. Adopted by the Duplin County Board of Commissioners this **5th day of April, 1993**.

T. Elwood Revelle
Chairman, Duplin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Ralph Cottle
Clerk to the Board