



What You Need To Know About The Address Numbering System

TOWN OF ASHLAND

ASHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT ● ASHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
& DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY

Do I have to Comply?

Yes. The Address Numbering System is a Town of Ashland ordinance. All property owners, tenants, and occupants, or persons in possession of a primary building must display the assigned address number.

What happens if I don't comply?

Any property owner, tenant, occupant, or person in possession of a primary building who fails to comply with this ordinance may be fined by the Board of Selectman a penalty of not more than \$100 for each day of violation.

Properties Affected.

All primary buildings (the main building on a parcel of land) shall be identified according to this ordinance.

What constitutes a Street?

For this ordinance, a street shall be considered any access way, whether public or private, which serves two or more primary buildings or vacant lots.

Why are numbers skipped?

One odd and one even number is assigned to each 50-foot interval of a street. The number that gets assigned to a primary building is determined by which 50-foot interval the main driveway (or walkway if there is no driveway) intersects with the street. This allows for potential future subdivision of lots without the need to renumber every address that follows it.

What are the requirements for displaying the address number?

Location:

All properties with primary buildings must display the assigned address number so as to be readily visible from the street providing the primary access to the building. That number can be placed in the following manner:

1. For a primary building within 50 feet of the street and readily visible from the street, the address number must be conspicuously

displayed on the street side of the building so that it is clearly visible from the street.

2. For a primary building not readily visible from the street or located more than 50 feet from the street, the address number must be conspicuously displayed within ten (10) feet on either side of the main driveway (or walkway if there is no driveway) to the property. Ideally, the number should be located so that it can be seen by first responders BEFORE they reach the driveway (or walkway).
3. If the lot has frontage on more than one street, the address must be posted only for the street providing the primary access.

Appearance:

1. All address numbers must be at least 4" in height.
2. All address numbers must be of a contrasting color to their background. Reflective numbers on non-reflective backgrounds or non-reflective numbers on reflective backgrounds make them easier to read at night and are recommended, but not required.
3. Address numbers should be easy to read. Overly stylized numbers may be harder to identify.
4. If a building displays a "year built" sign, that sign should be designed such that it cannot be easily confused with the address number.
5. Address numbers must be maintained so that they remain easy to spot and easy to read. Numbers can become concealed by vegetation and snow accumulation. Both should be removed to keep the numbers visible.

For more information:

- If you need a address number, contact the Town Clerk at 603-968-4432.
- If you have questions about placement of address numbers, contact the Building Inspector at 603-968-4432, ext. 5621 or bldg@ashland.nh.gov.