

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **UNIFORM NUMBERING SYSTEM**

#### **SECTION 500 – Intent**

The purpose of this article is to establish and maintain an effective system of numbering, for properties that have been developed into a use that is permitted by this ordinance. Such a system shall allow the 911 Emergency Service to identify properties that are in need of immediate assistance. A uniform numbering system shall also enhance the delivery of mail by the U.S. Postal Service, as well as the delivery of additional goods and services.

#### **SECTION 505 – Administration**

The Planning Director or designee shall issue numbers to all primary structures that are located in unincorporated areas of Decatur County. A number shall be assigned to a primary structure when a Zoning Permit is approved for that structure, and the number shall be assigned in a manner that is in conformance with this article. Structures that are not approved to be a unit of living or business shall not receive a number, unless the Planning Director or designee determines that it is necessary to do so. A list of all numbers that have been issued shall be maintained in a format that is easily accessible and categorized by the post office that is responsible for the mail delivery of that structure.

#### **SECTION 510 – System of Numbering**

##### **1. Grid System**

The method of numbering shall be based on the Purdue Grid System, which classifies the direction of roadways as being North-South, and East-West. The North-South grid shall be represented by horizontal lines, and the East-West grid shall be represented by vertical lines. Grid lines shall be separated at one (1) mile intervals creating a block, or “section,” that will be used to determine the range of numbers.

##### **2. Range of Numbers**

The blocks that have been defined by the grid system shall represent intervals of 1000 numbers and shall be used to determine a range of numbers to be used when issuing addresses. The grid shall begin at the point defined as “zero” and increase by 1000 for each interval throughout the county.

##### **3. Classifying the Roadway**

The road, on which the number shall be assigned, is dependent upon the location of the driveway, or main access point. If there is more than one main access point, the address shall be assigned at the access point that is nearest the front of the property, based on the

positioning of the structure. The road that the address will be assigned on shall be classified as North-South, or East-West depending on the overall direction of the street. Measure the road's distance horizontally and vertically from the point at which the road begins to the point at which the road ends. The road shall be classified as North-South, if the vertical distance is greater than the horizontal distance; and the road shall be classified as East-West, if the horizontal distance is greater than the vertical distance.

#### 4. Assigning Numbers

Specific numbers shall be assigned based on the direction of the street, and the location of the driveway within the defined grid. Each section of the grid shall have a defined minimum and maximum that each address must fall within. Within the range of numbers, the address shall correspond to its distance from the minimum and maximum. The specific number that is assigned shall be odd or even, depending on the direction of the road, and the side of the road that the structure is on. The determination of the type of number to be issued shall use the following requirements:

- a. If the address is being issued on the East side of a North-South road, the address shall be an Even number;
- b. If the address is being issued on the West side of a North-South road, the address shall be an Odd number;
- c. If the address is being issued on the North side of an East-West road, the address shall be an Even number;
- d. If the address is being issued on the South side of an East-West road, the address shall be an Odd number.

### **SECTION 520 – Display of Address**

#### 1. Location

All addresses that are issued by the Decatur County Plan Commission shall be posted in a conspicuous location that can be identified from the county roadway that is used to access the structure. The number may be posted in any prominent place, including on the structure itself, an outside light post, or a similar location. It may be displayed on a mailbox if it is according to postal regulations.

All structures that are located more than 100 feet off the county roadway used to access the structure, not visible from the county roadway, or located on a private lane, shall display the number at the entrance of the driveway, or private lane, in addition to a prominent location on, or near, the structure.

#### 2. Size

Addresses shall be displayed with numbers that are a minimum of three (3) inches in height, made of a durable, weatherproof material, and shall contrast in color from its background

for easy visibility. Reflective materials should be avoided, as they are difficult to read when headlights, or spotlights, are placed upon them.

### **SECTION 525 – Re-Numbering**

The Planning Director, or designee, has the authority to re-number any structure in order to comply with the Uniform Numbering System. The owner of any property that is re-numbered, shall be notified of the change and the reasons for the change. All changes must be reflected immediately.

### **SECTION 530 –Notification of Local Agencies**

All new and changed addresses shall be reported on a regular basis to local groups and agencies that are directly involved in the implementation of the Uniform Numbering System. The groups and agencies shall be notified in a timely manner, in order to prepare for any measures that may be necessary to reflect the changes. Upon request of the Decatur County Commissioners, a current status report of the implementation of the Uniform Numbering System, shall be provided.

### **SECTION 535 – Violation**

Any property owner that fails to display, or maintain, the assigned number as required by this article, shall be held responsible for violating the provisions of this ordinance. A fine of not less than \$10.00 and not more than \$25.00 shall be charged for each offense. Each day that the violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

### **SECTION 540 – Enforcement**

The Board of Commissioners may institute a suit for injunction in the courts of Decatur County to restrain any person, firm, or corporation who shall remove, alter, deface, destroy or conceal any number assigned to, or place upon, any building in compliance with this ordinance. A suit for injunction may also be filed against any person who places, or permits to place, any improper number that is not in compliance with this ordinance. The Board of Commissioners may institute a suit for mandatory injunction directing a person, firm, or corporation to correct any violation of the provisions of this ordinance, or to bring about compliance with the provisions of this ordinance. If the Board of Commissioners is successful in any such suit, the defendant, or respondent, shall bear the cost of the action, including reasonable attorney's fees.

