

CAN WE FIND YOU?

Ever wonder why you see an emergency vehicle driving around the roads like they are lost? For firefighters, there is nothing like knowing there is someone out there waiting for your help, but you can't find them! Your address numbers can be a vital link to your safety, be sure they are visible from the street.

Is your address or house blocked from roadside view? Would an emergency vehicle have difficulty locating you? Many people think because they have numbers on their house, the fire department would be able to see them. NOT ALWAYS TRUE! Numbers on your home are one of the most important safety features you can have. But if they are not visible from the street day and night, we can have trouble locating you. Because street lighting in rural areas is usually unavailable, finding house numbers can be difficult. Every second counts during an emergency. Valuable time can be lost if your address is not clearly posted where emergency responders can see it. Here are some tips to remember when putting numbers on the outside of your home.

- Make sure the numbers are large enough (at least 4" high)
- Use colors that can be seen easily and contrast with background color (Severely contrast the colors for best results)
- Place numbers or letters where they can be seen: appropriate angles and heights relative to roadways and approach paths.
- Night viewing is enhanced by reflective numbers (commercially available), "glass beads" mixed with paint, or fluorescent paint.
- In some way light the numbers. (Position a light nearby or get internally illuminated numbers)
- Keep all shrubs and decorations away from numbers so they can be seen.
- If your home is set back on the property, position your address at the driveway entrance. (Use the same rules for a sign as you would for numbers on the house)
- If street signs are missing on your road and approaching intersections, contact your county commissioner to file a complaint. Street signs are as vital to finding you as your address numbers are.
- When calling 911, always give the emergency operator your 911 compliant address.

In an emergency, seconds count! Making sure your house numbers are visible could mean a lot to a family member in need of medical attention or a fire engine!

**Pamphlet courtesy of the Rolling Oaks Volunteer Fire Department
139 VZCR 3832 • Wills Point, TX 75169
903.560.1941**