

## CHAPTER 18

### RURAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

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**18.01 Purpose and Intent.** The Purpose of this Ordinance is to establish and maintain a rural road naming and numbering system and a rural identification system in the unincorporated areas of Sauk County. Establishing an identification system is intended to provide each location a distinctive identification pursuant to an established system to assist in providing fire protection, emergency medical services, law enforcement, emergency management, postal delivery and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of Sauk County.

**18.02 Authority.** This Chapter is adopted under the authority granted under Wis. Stats. § 59.54(4).

**18.03 Powers and Duties of the Committee.** The Planning, Zoning & Land Records Committee of the Sauk County Board of Supervisors is designated as the responsible committee for oversight of the Rural Identification System.

(1) A public hearing shall be held on all proposed amendments of this Chapter by the Planning, Zoning & Land Records Committee after giving a Class 2 notice. If an amendment is approved by the Committee after hearing, the Committee shall forward a recommendation to the County Board for consideration.

(2) The Committee shall establish fees for the issuance of rural identification numbers and the appropriate sign and shall adopt a schedule of said fees.

(3) The Committee shall adopt a uniform system of numbering properties in consultation with the Planning & Zoning Department, Sheriff's Department and Emergency Management Director.

(4) The Planning & Zoning Department shall notify the Sauk County Sheriff's Department, Highway Department, and Emergency Management Office and the Real Property Lister in the County Treasurer's Office whenever a new identification number is issued.

**18.04 Official Map.** (1) Location identification numbers and road names shown on the town fire number maps shall serve as the Official Identification Map for Sauk County.

(2) There is established a uniform system of names for all roads in the unincorporated areas of Sauk County, Wisconsin, as follows:

(a) U.S., State and County Trunk highways shall be named as provided by applicable law and specified by the Planning, Zoning & Land Records Committee, and shall be denominated as such on appropriate maps and issued identification signs.

(b) All other public roads shall be named by resolution, adopted by the town board in which the road is located, in such a way as to avoid conflicts with other road names. Should a conflict occur, the Committee shall, in cooperation with the town, select a name which does not conflict with other road names. Should the conflict be unresolved, the Sauk County Board of Supervisors shall name the road. Town or county resolutions adopting road names shall be recorded in the office of the Sauk County Register of Deeds.

(3) New roads resulting from the approval of new land divisions shall be named in accordance with the name provided on the approved plat. The road names shall be added to the Official Identification Maps of Sauk County.

**18.05 Signs.** All homes, businesses, farms, structures for human habitation, multifamily

dwellings and other establishments, within the unincorporated areas of Sauk County shall have an assigned identification number. The Planning, Zoning & Land Records Committee shall adopt standards for the placement, design and type of sign and installation standards required. The assigned number shall be posted on a sign unit located which complies with the specifications adopted by the Planning, Zoning & Land Records Committee. Industrial or business complexes will be assigned one address number. A multifamily dwelling shall be issued one address number with the individual units identified as determined by the owner.

**18.06 Identification Numbering.** (1) The Identification System shall utilize a grid system and extend from the northwest corner of Section 6, T. 13 N., R. 2 E., and number address south and east over the rural areas of the County.

(2) New address numbers will originate at the base lines and extend south and east assigning 400 numbers to every mile. Even numbers will be assigned to the north side of the east-west roads and to the east side of the north-south roads. Odd numbers will be assigned to the south side of the east-west roads and to the west side of the north-south roads. The number shall be assigned at the intersection of the centerline of the driveway and the right-of-way line of the public road.

**18.07 Sign Application and Installation.**

(1) When a land use permit is issued for any new residential, commercial, business or industrial location, the Planning & Zoning Department shall issue an identification number upon payment of the required fee. At the discretion of the Planning & Zoning Department, issuance of the identification number may be deferred until construction begins and the exact location of the driveway is determined.

(2) The sign may be installed by the Department of Planning & Zoning, the town, or the property owner in accordance with the specifications adopted herein and any further specifications established by the Committee.

(3) It is unlawful to willfully damage or destroy any sign erected under the provisions of this Ordinance.

(4) Owners or occupants of a building or location having an assigned address number shall be responsible for replacing damaged signs in accordance with the specifications and procedures provided herein. An owner or occupant may pursue civil remedies for the reimbursement of sign or sign unit costs from the person causing the damage or destruction.

**18.08 Enforcement.** (1) The Department of Planning & Zoning shall have the power to issue a written order to correct any violation of this Ordinance that shall specify the following:

(a) The nature of the violation and the steps needed to abate and/or correct it.

(b) The penalty or penalties the violator will be subject to if the alleged violation is not abated and/or corrected within a specified time period.

(2) If the owner or occupant does not comply with a written order from the Department of Planning & Zoning, the owner or occupant person shall be subject to one or more of the following penalties

(a) Any person who fails to comply with, or violates, the provisions of the Ordinance shall forfeit not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 and the costs of prosecution for each violation.

(b) Said person shall also be responsible for all damages including sign unit replacement.

(c) Each day a violation exists or continues shall constitute a separate offense.

**18.09 Savings Clause.** Should any section or provision of this Chapter be declared unconstitutional, invalid, or repealed, the constitutionality or validity of the remainder of this Chapter shall not be affected.

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Repealed and recreated by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors on June 20, 2000 - Ordinance No. 132-00.