

LOUISA COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 7.5
AMENDED

UNIFORM RURAL ADDRESS SYSTEM ORDINANCE OF LOUISA COUNTY, IOWA

Be It Enacted by the Board of Supervisors of Louisa County, Iowa:

SECTION 1

Purpose. This ordinance mandates the use of a uniform rural address system for residents of Louisa County in order to promote the convenience, safety, and general welfare of those residents and provides for a penalty.

SECTION 2

Definitions. For use in this ordinance, the following terms or words shall be interpreted or defined as follows:

1. "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, corporation, unincorporated association, or other entity.
2. "Subdivision" shall mean the division of a tract of land into separate lots or parcels for the purpose of transfer of ownership or building development.
3. "Building" shall mean a roofed and/or walled structure built for permanent use.
4. "Base Map" shall mean the map used by the agency coordinating the uniform rural address system in Louisa County subject to the provisions of this ordinance.
5. "Engineer" shall mean the Louisa County Engineer.
6. "BOS" shall mean the Louisa County Board of Supervisors
7. "Board" shall mean the Louisa County Joint E911 Service Board

SECTION 3

Establishment by Ordinance. The BOS shall, by ordinance, establish the street and avenue type of uniform rural address system to be used in Louisa County.

SECTION 4

Extent of System. The uniform address system shall extend over the entire unincorporated areas of Louisa County except for those areas already using the system of a nearby incorporated area. Any incorporated area, upon presentation of a written request from the governing body of such city to the Board, may also be included in the uniform rural address system.

SECTION 5

Implementation of System. The Board shall direct the E911 Coordinator to:

1. Verify the accuracy of the base map that shall be used in the assignment of addresses.
2. Make all necessary corrections and updates to that map.
3. Assign addresses in accordance with the system selected by the Board.
4. Purchase sign assembly materials which met Iowa Department of Transportation specifications.
5. Develop, print, and make available rural reference maps.
6. Notify post offices, rural emergency providers, dispatchers, emergency vehicles, and county offices, located in adjacent counties whereby such districts overlap into Louisa County of the effective date of the system and the assignments.
7. Notify all residents affected by this mandatory system, by publication and posting, of the following:
 - a. How to use the system.
 - b. That road markers have been placed.
 - c. That permanent address markers have been placed indicating the assigned house number.
 - d. That maintenance of the system is required and where replacement markers can be obtained and how to place them.
 - e. How to obtain address markers for new structures.
 - f. There is a penalty for refusing to use the system and for removing, damaging, defacing, altering, or destroying the address marker.
8. Distribute the markers.

SECTION 6

Road Markers. The E911 Coordinator shall supervise the installation of road identification markers at each road intersection in Louisa County whereby the provisions of this ordinance apply. Such markers shall be in place on or before the date the system takes effect.

SECTION 7

House Numbers. Louisa County will provide for every person owning, controlling, occupying, or using any house, store, storeroom, or building situated on premises fronting any public way as provided in Section 4, a permanent marker on such premises indicating the assigned number. Any house number existing at the time the provisions of this ordinance take effect and that is different than the newly assigned number shall be removed at the time the new number is installed. Every person who owns real estate requiring a marker under this ordinance shall purchase said permanent marker from Louisa County for the price established by the E911 Service Board with notification to the Board of Supervisors.

The permanent marker with the house number affixed shall be placed to the right of the driveway on the right of way line as you face the property from the road, within 5 feet of the driveway, and at the top of the back slope of any existing ditch. Placement and installation is the responsibility of the land owner.

The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to accessory buildings but may apply to such buildings located on a separate unit of frontage if requested by the owner or proprietor and approved.

All permanent markers shall meet the specifications as established by the E911 Coordinator, and the sign shall be red in color with a minimum 4 inch number in reflective material, unless a special exception is granted by the Board or the E911 Coordinator, in which case the authority granting the special exception shall specify the specifications.

Each trailer court shall have one permanent maker at the main entrance to said trailer court and each trailer within said trailer court shall be marked by the existing lot number assigned to said trailer by the owner of said trailer court and a written specification listing the lots and lot numbers of every trailer court shall be prepared by the owner of every trailer court and provided to the E911 Coordinator so that the E911 Coordinator may formulate the proper mapping which will be required to implement the 911 system. The marker or markings for each individual trailer shall not be the permanent markers as specified herein, but each trailer shall be marked by the use of numerical insignias as specified by resolution of the Board.

SECTION 8

Maintenance of Uniform Rural Address System. The E911 Coordinator shall be responsible for the enforcement and maintenance of the uniform rural address system in Louisa County. These duties shall include assignment of all new addresses, providing

markers for new addresses, providing replacement markers, replacing street markers as needed and in conjunction with the County Engineer, updating maps, making available new maps on an annual basis, making periodic checks of the rural areas of Louisa County to insure that the provisions of this ordinance are being complied with, and any other duties necessary to insure the continued maintenance of the uniform rural address system of Louisa County.

A fee for said replacement markers shall be paid to Louisa County by the property owner or proprietor. The cost of purchasing replacement markers shall be established by the E911 Service Board, with notification to the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 9

New Structures. Every person erecting a building as set forth under the provisions of Section 7 of this ordinance but after the date the uniform rural address system becomes effective shall, within seven (7) days of commencement of construction, notify the E911 Coordinator who shall within fourteen (14) days assign a number to such structure. The provisions of Section 5 and Section 7 shall be applicable to any person subject to the provisions of this section.

SECTION 10

Penalty. Refusal to use the Uniform Rural Address System, or the removal, damaging, defacing, alteration, or destruction of the Uniform Rural Address Marker which indicates a premises assigned number or the removal, damaging, alteration, or destruction of a rural address system marker intentionally by one who has no right to do so, act may be punished as a simple misdemeanor. In addition, any violation of this section shall be a county infraction which is punishable as set by the Code of Iowa.

SECTION 11

Tax Levy. Louisa County shall levy as taxes against real estate in Louisa County, any amounts expended in the purchase of permanent markers and the cost of installation of said permanent markers in any situation where the land owner does not properly accept his or her responsibility of purchasing and placing said permanent markers; and said levy shall occur against the real estate upon which a permanent marker is required as set out within this ordinance. This power to levy the cost of any markers and installation is subject to the laws of the State of Iowa and shall be done in accordance with the Code of Iowa and said levy shall be triggered by the E911 Coordinator certifying the cost of said markers or installation. The levying of said costs shall not prevent the issuance of penalties as provided in Section 10 herein, and these remedies of the county are not mutually exclusive.

