

## ADDRESS DISPLAY ORDINANCE

### Section 1. Purpose and Intent

The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to provide a uniform system of road and street addresses for all properties and buildings throughout Chowan County in order to facilitate provision of adequate public safety and emergency response service and to minimize difficulty in locating properties and buildings for public service agencies and the general public.

### Section 2. Definitions~

(A) The following words and phrases when used in this ordinance shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this Section.

(1) Address Program Administrator: the official of Chowan County charged with the administration of the ordinance, including his authorized representative.

(2) Building: a structure having a roof supported by columns or walls for the shelter of persons, animals or equipment. When separated by division walls from the ground up without openings, each portion of such building may be deemed a separate building.

(3) Driveways: a private way, beginning at the property line of a lot abutting a public road, private road, easement or private right-of-way, giving access from that public road, recorded easement, recorded private road or private right-of-way, and leading to buildings, use or structure on that lot.

(4) Road Address: the combination of numbers and road name assigned by Chowan County which identifies a particular building or lot.

(5) Road: a public or private one-way or two-way road for ingress and/or egress. This definition includes secondary roads but does not include driveways.

(B) Except as specifically set forth in this Section, the definition Article V of the Chowan County Subdivision Regulations shall govern the meaning of words and phrases in this ordinance.

### Section 3. Administration and Application

(A) The Address Program Administrator will be responsible for the interpretation and administration of this ordinance, including:

(1) assigning all numbers for properties and buildings;

(2) maintaining address records of each property and building;

(3) recommending changes in existing addresses when necessary to facilitate sequential house numbers along a road;

(4) designating individual unit addresses within the multiple housing units in conformity with this ordinance;

(5) assisting the public in complying with the requirements of this ordinance.

(B) This ordinance shall apply in all areas of Chowan County not within the town limits of Edenton.

#### Section 4. Display of Road Address Numbers

(A) Every property owner of improved property shall purchase and display official address numbers. The following criteria must be used to properly display the number:

(1) address numbers must be a minimum of three (3) inches in height so as to be seen easily from the road.

(2) numbers for multiple dwelling units and non-residential buildings shall be at least six (6) inches in height and shall be placed on the front of the building facing the road or on the end of the building nearest the road.

(3) address numbers must be set on a background of a contrasting color.

(4) on a corner lot, the house number should face the street named in the address.

(5) if a building is more than seventy-five (75) feet from the road, the address number shall be displayed on a sign attached to a fence, gate, lawn stake, mailbox, etc, in front of the building and at the end of the right-of-way. This number must be readable from the roadway.

(6) address numbers should be plain block numbers.

(B) The Address Program Administrator will have the right to authorize and approve alternate methods of displaying house numbers which meet the intent of this ordinance when strict adherence to these standards cannot reasonably be met.

#### Section 5. Numbers for Future Buildings

All residential and business buildings erected after the adoption of this ordinance shall be assigned a number in accordance with the property-numbering map, prior to the issuance of a building permit by the Building Inspector. Owners shall purchase and display such numbers as provided in Section 4 of this ordinance.

## Section 6. Enforcement

(A) No building permit shall be issued until an official house number has been assigned for a lot. The recorded plat of any subdivision must show the address for each lot created or recorded.

(B) Owners or occupants of buildings already constructed which do not comply with this ordinance will be notified and requested to meet these requirements within sixty days from the date of notification. A

warning notice will be issued after sixty days if the requirements have not been met. If the owner or occupant does not comply voluntarily with this ordinance within thirty days of delivery of a warning notice by registered or certified mail or by hand delivery to the building in violation, enforcement action pursuant to G.S.153A-123 may be initiated.

This ordinance shall become effective January 1, 1994.

Adopted December 6, 1993 by the Chowan County Board of Commissioners.

Nancy B. Morgan, County Clerk