

**WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE NUMBER 44
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION ORDINANCE**

Adopted: March 17, 2009

Effective: April 22, 2009

An Ordinance requiring all developed property to have a property identification number visible from the roadway, and to provide a penalty for the violation thereof.

THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER ORDAINS:

Section 1 Title

This Ordinance shall be known as the Whitewater Township Property Identification Ordinance and it shall be sufficient to any action for the enforcement of the provisions hereof to define the same by such title and reference to the number hereof.

Section 2 Definitions

“Brush Stroke” shall mean the width of a mark made by a paint brush, marking implement or the like.

Section 3 Requirements

- a. All property upon which houses dwellings, buildings, house trailers, business, and other such structures are constructed or located, within the Township of Whitewater, shall be considered developed property and shall have property identification numbers which shall be posted on the face and/or other appropriate side of the house, dwelling, business or structure in a manner and location so that said identification numbers are clearly and readily readable, to a person of normal vision, from the adjacent roadway. In the event that the house, dwelling, house trailer, business or structure is located on the property so that the posted numbers are not clearly readable from the roadway, due to distance or intervening sight barriers such as, but not limited to, shrubbery, terrain features or structures, the identification number shall also be posted separate from the main structure, (i.e. on a yard light post, entrance gate, driveway marker, mailbox, etc.) in a fashion that is clearly readable from the adjacent roadway. Such additional identification numbers shall be either located centrally between the side boundaries of the property or located immediately adjacent to the driveway(s) providing ingress to the property, and shall be located on the same side of the adjacent roadway as the property it identifies.
- b. The property identification number or address shall use numbers not less than four (4) inches in heights with a brush stroke of at least ½”. In the event that the house, dwelling, house trailer, building, business or structure is located more than ninety (90) feet from the centerline of the traveled portion and non obstructed view from the adjacent roadway, the identifying numbers shall be not less than six (6) inches in height with a minimum brush stroke of ¾”, but

in any case said numbers shall be of a size sufficiently large so that the numbers are readable from the centerline of the adjacent roadway by a person of normal vision.

- c. The color of the numbers shall be in contrast with the immediate background on which they are mounted.
- d. In the case of multiple units, either business or residential, it shall be clearly indicated at each entrance the property identification numbers(s) of those apartments or businesses accessible through such entrance. The purpose of this identification is to facilitate the rapid movement of emergency vehicles to a specific apartment or business unit in apartment buildings or business complexes which have multiple entrances bearing the same number and series of units that are not accessible except through a specific entrance.
- e. The occupants of all building within the Township used for commercial or industrial purposes that are connected with or located so close to other building as to prevent access between such buildings and which requires a different rout of access to the rear than that to the front of the building shall cause the correct business name and street numbers to be placed on the rear entrance door, or immediately adjacent thereof. Such names and numbers shall not be less than three (3) nor more than six (6) inches in height, and may consist of standard manufactured letters and/or numerals. If painted on the building or door such names and numbers shall be applied with standard type numeral and letter stencils. The name and number shall be placed as to be plainly visible and readable from the alley, service drive, easement, parking lot, or any other rear access.

Section 4 Existing Structures

All existing developed property shall be identified as required in Section 3 within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this Ordinance or be considered in violation hereof.

Section 5 Persons Responsible

The owner, occupant, lessee, or other person in control of any developed property shall each be responsible for identifying said property in compliance with this Ordinance.

Section 6 Enforcement

The Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Department may issue citations for the violation of this Ordinance.

Section 7 Penalty

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to a civil fine not to exceed \$100.00.

Section 8 Severability

Should any section, subdivision, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so invalidated.

Section 9 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication.