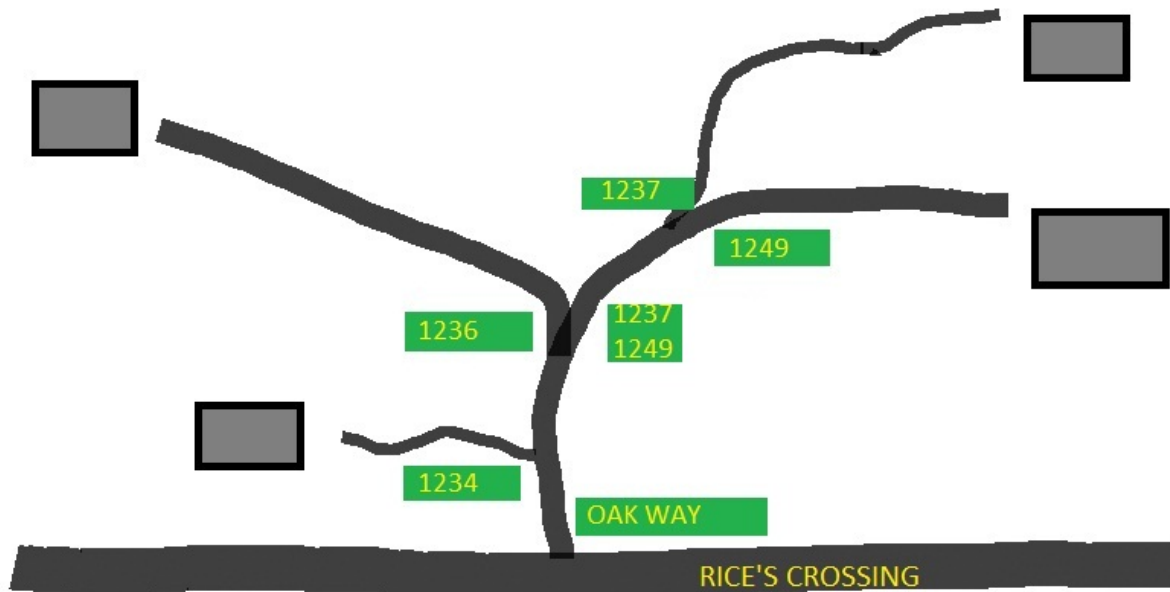


HELP US TO HELP YOU! Identify Your Home

Address Signs

Don't take it for granted that firefighters and other emergency responders can find your home.

Make sure every intersection leading to your home has road name signs. If your road has any splits (as in the diagram below where Oak Way has two legs) be sure the address for each home on each leg of the road is marked at each intersection (for example, house numbers 1237 and 1249 have two address markers, one where the road splits, and one at the driveways).



Signs should be of metal and have reflective letters at least 3" tall. If necessary, use arrows to indicate which homes are on each leg. The signs in the picture below are good examples of how to mark a turn leading to multiple homes (note the arrows):



Your house number sign must be visible from the road from 100' **in both directions**. It should be metal and have reflective contrasting numbers at least 3" tall. If there are several driveways off your road, use arrows to make it obvious which one is yours.

Maintain Access

Fire engines are big machines; they can weigh 40,000 pounds. A fire bulldozer on a lowboy transport is 10' wide and up to 60' long. Make sure all roads, bridges, and access areas can accommodate these vehicles.

Remove tree branches up to 15' above the road surface. Wherever possible, remove brush and branches 10' from both sides of all roads.

Make sure your bridge or culvert can support the weight of a fire engine. If not, you may need to strengthen or replace it. Consult a civil engineer and placard your bridge with its weight allowance.

All roads and driveways must be at least 12' wide (18' in most situations). Gates should be 14' wide (current county code width requirement). The grade should be less than 16 percent. The radius of turns must be at least 50' so fire equipment can navigate them.

All driveways and dead-end roads must have places where large fire vehicles can turn around. Mark dead-end roads. Turn-arounds can be cul-de-sacs with at least a 40-foot radius, or places for a 3-point turn. Fire chiefs will not send their engines in to places where they cannot turn around.

During a wildfire, fire equipment will be entering your area while you may be trying to leave. Build frequent turnouts along any roads less than 20' wide so vehicles can pass each other.