

Frequently Asked Questions As To Why Is It Important To Post Your E-911 Address?

Why is it so important for me to have my E-911 address posted?

Locating you quickly in your time of EMERGENCY without delay is our goal. When an Oxford County E-911 Telecommunicator dispatches any emergency service unit whether it is Fire, EMS (Emergency Medical Services), Law Enforcement or First Responders to your residence in your time of need, having your address posted clearly and visibly allows them to find you much quicker.

What is the best way to post my address on my home so that it may be seen by any responding emergency service unit?

The Otisfield Fire Department recommends that you post your address on the front (facing the road) of the residence in a minimum of a 4 inch, 6 inch preferred, reflective numbers.

Why should the numbers be reflective?

So that your address may be seen during the day and/or during the night, and will be reflected by headlights as well.

How is an Emergency Responding Unit going to see my reflective numbers on my home if I live way off of the road?

The Otisfield Fire Department recommends that if you live more than 50 feet off of the road that your address ALSO be posted on a post, fence, mailbox, or some structure at the property line next to the driveway with a minimum of 4 inch reflective numbers. Having your address posted in both places is very important. Mounting your address high enough to avoid snow in the winter or high grass during the summer is important as well as not being blocked by bushes, flowers or branches.

Can I post my E-911 Address in my yard if I live closer than 50 feet from the road?

Most definitely so. This is just another “clear” indicator of where a responding emergency unit should go if you are having an emergency of any kind.

I have my address on my mailbox, isn't that enough?

No it is not. In your time of emergency the responding units will be trying to locate you near the address of your home and not where you receive your mail. Having your E-911 assigned address on your mailbox for mail purposes is important but may not be enough for us to locate you in an emergency.

Should my E-911 Address be visible from both directions?

Yes. Your E-911 Address should be visible from the road coming from either direction as responders could be coming from either direction and not just coming from town.

I am going to tell the E-911 Dispatcher exactly where I am when I call, so won't that be enough?

No one should assume that during their time of emergency that they will be able to talk or even speak clearly for that matter. It is a known fact that during an emergency it is likely that your speech may be impaired for any sort of reason regarding your emergency. So please DO NOT assume you will be able to convey your location in an emergency.

I have called 911 before and no one had a problem finding me, so shouldn't they be able to find me again?

Again, no one should assume previous occurrences will affect future occurrences. Yes Emergency Units will be dispatched properly and provided with "cross streets" and in some cases "directions" regarding your location but if you have your address clearly posted in such a way that responding units can see your E-911 Address, then emergency responders will find you quickly. Remember TIME IS CRITICAL in all situations where you may need help, so time lost trying to find you could mean the loss of life and or property!

Can I have my address posted in too many places?
No absolutely not.