



## Yakima County Fire Marshal's Office Public Information Handout **FP-13** **Premise Identification / Addressing**



### **International Fire Code Chapter 5**

The International Fire Code (IFC) requires that new and existing buildings be provided with an approved address identification.

The address on your home or building is a very important feature. Emergencies often occur without notice, and every second counts when lives and/or property are in danger.

### **Premises Identification**

The IFC sets forth requirements for all new and existing buildings to have approved address numbers, building numbers, or building identification with the following requirements:

- The building identification must be placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property.
- The numbers shall contrast with their background.
- Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetic letters.
- Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with 1/2" brush stroke width and increase in size depending on distance.
- Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure.
- When a facility has multiple buildings, each building must have a unique identification posted on it.
  - Example: Building A or Warehouse #. Each unique identification should be visible from the vehicular approach.

### **Address Visibility**

Contrasting colors to the background and big enough to read from the middle of the street are very valuable to the emergency response personnel.

If the building is set back from the road, post the address at the beginning of the driveway so it can be easily read from the street fronting the building. The size of the numbers is the same required on the building.



## Commercial parcels with more than one Building

When a site or facility has more than one building on it, each building is required to have a unique identification posted on the building to help emergency responders efficiently proceed to the correct building, whether it be for a fire or an emergency medical response. The building identification needs to be contrasting colors to the background and big enough to read from the drivable approach to the building.



*If we can't find you, we won't be able to help you when an emergency occurs.*



If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Yakima County Building and Fire Safety at (509) 574-2300.