

Guidelines for the Issuance of Addresses in Washington Parish

Washington Parish ORDINANCE No. 09-500 establishes the authority of the Washington Parish Communications District to provide the appropriate five-digit number to applicants requesting a new address within Washington Parish, and also establishes the authority of the District to name un-named highways, streets, roads, trails, or thoroughfares when such is necessary for addressing purposes and to change road names and addresses when necessary.

The Washington Parish Communications District will therefore assign an address for any principal building or suitable accessory building located within Washington Parish, outside of the municipal boundaries of Bogalusa and Franklinton. The assignment of address numbers within the municipal boundaries of Bogalusa and Franklinton is the responsibility of their respective city or village government.

Address numbers are issued based on the structure's specific location (latitude/longitude point) as it relates to the highway, street, primary road, secondary road, street, local road, neighborhood road, rural road, vehicular trail, or other thoroughfare which provides access to the building. Such highway, street, road, trail, or thoroughfare may be private or public. This system is based on Federal Geographic Data Committee Document Number FGDC-STD-016-2011, United States Thoroughfare, Landmark, and Postal Address Data Standard for Linear, Non-Axial addressing. Addresses will not be issued for land, lots, or parcels where the future structure's specific location is not known.

If three or more addresses exist on an un-named highway, street, road, trail, or other thoroughfare, such will be named by the Communications District for addressing purposes. Other un-named highways, streets, roads, trails, or thoroughfares may be named and an appropriate address issued if such is in the best interest of public safety. The naming of such un-named highways, streets, roads, trails, or thoroughfares does not alter its availability or unavailability for access by the public and does not grant any status as to road maintenance by Washington Parish Government.

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply :

1. "Building" shall mean anything constructed, erected or built, the use of which requires a location on the ground and designed for the support, enclosure, shelter or protection of persons, animals, or movable property of any kind.
2. "Principal building" shall mean a non accessory building in which the principal use of the lot or property, on which it is located, is conducted. The connection of two buildings by means of an open porch, breezeway, passageway, carport or other such open structures, with or without a roof, shall make them one building. Such structures attached to the principal building shall be deemed a part of the principal building. More than one principal building may, however, exist on a lot or property.
3. "Accessory building" shall mean a building located on the same lot or property with a principal building and of a nature customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal building. Accessory buildings do not require an address unless they have their own separate telephone number or electrical power meter independent of a principal building. Such a telephone number or electrical power meter is deemed as to establish such accessory building as being suitable to provide human shelter or protection, therefore requiring an address. As an example, an accessory barn or shed does not require an address unless equipped with its own separate telephone number or electrical power meter.
4. Water wells remotely located from buildings do not require an address. An address will be issued, however, if such is requested by the land owner for emergency location or other purposes.