

Ordinance No. 2026-5-13: Fire Signs
Town of Bridge Creek, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

Section 1: Purpose and Intent:

The Board of Supervisors for the Town of Bridge Creek recognizes that the rapid location of properties by emergency services (Police, Fire, and EMS) is critical to public safety. The purpose of this ordinance is to:

- Maintain a standardized, mileage-based numbering system that integrates with the County 911 Dispatch.
- Ensure that every residence is identifiable in low-visibility conditions (night, fog, snow, etc)
- Reduce response times by preventing “overshooting” or missing hidden driveways.
- Protect the safety of responders who rely on these signs for navigation in unfamiliar areas.

Section 2: Placement and Maintenance:

- Fixed Location:
 - Fire signs are assigned to a specific geographic coordinate. They shall not be moved, relocated to a building, or shifted along the roadway without written approval from the Town.
- Visibility:
 - Signs prior to April 1, 2026-must remain perpendicular to the road.
 - Effective April 1, 2026-all signs shall be double-sided and positioned to ensure visibility from both the right and left approaches to the driveway.
 - All signs must be kept free of vegetation, snowbanks, or decorative coverings.
- Damage: Property Owners must report damaged or missing signs to the Town Clerk within 48 hours.

Section 3: Prohibited Acts:

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- Remove, Alter, or Deface a Town- Issued fire sign.
- Relocate a sign from its original installation point.
- Obscure the sign from its original installation point.

Section 4: Enforcement and Penalties

Violations of this ordinance shall be handled via a progressive enforcement schedule:

1. First Offense:
 - a. Written Educational Warning: A formal letter explaining the safety risks of the violation, along with a 14- day grace period to correct the issue.
2. Second Offense:
 - a. Citation in the amount of \$250.00; issued if the violation is not corrected within the grace period or if a second violation occurs within 12 months.
3. Any additional offense:
 - a. Citation in the amount of \$500.00; issued for continued non-compliance or repeated intentional tampering. Each day of continued violation may be considered a separate offense.

Section 5: Severability: Should any portion of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of law, the remainder of the ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6: Effective Date: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law in Section 60.80, Wis. Stats.

Chairman: _____ Supervisor #1: _____

Supervisor #2: _____ Supervisor #3: _____

Supervisor #4: _____ Clerk: _____