

## MERRIMACK FIRE RESCUE

432 Daniel Webster Highway Merrimack New Hampshire 03054 603.424.3690 • Fax 603.424.0603

Office of the Fire Marshal

**Fire Chief**Michael P. Currier

**Assistant Fire Chief** Brian L. Borneman

**Fire Marshal** John E. Manuele

As we are finally nearing an end to this record breaking winter The Merrimack Fire and Rescue Department would like to bring an important safety concern to everyone's attention. During several recent emergencies the responding fire and ambulance apparatus have had a difficult time finding your address. In an emergency seconds count and any delay is critical. Not being able to find the location of someone who is having a medical emergency or fire quickly can delay treatment and possibly even jeopardize lives, so being able to find an address easily is extremely important.

Please help us find you by trying to think about how we respond to emergencies. Fire, Ambulance and Police units are dispatched by radio to a specific street address. Many times we are looking for an address early in the morning or on a rainy or snowy night. Some locations only have the number on the house near the front door, which is usually not visible from the street. Some of the homes on streets in town do not have sequentially numbered houses; some may skip a number or even use letters, especially on older properties. Our easiest way of finding your address is to look at your mailbox. Some of the concerns we have include mailboxes with only a names and no numbers, very small numbers, numbers in script that are hard to read, numbers on the mailbox door only, or numbers only on one side of the mailbox. Here are some examples of less than helpful mailbox addresses are shown below.















The best way to address your house for us to find you is as follows;

Have the house numbers near the front door in a color that contrasts with the house color and large enough to see from the road. Use dark numbers on a light colored house and light numbers on a dark colored house.

Most importantly put 4" high reflective numbers on both sides of the mailbox, again using contrasting colors. If you use a post office box and do not have a mailbox use a signpost to

post your address. Do not use names or script on the mailbox. Some examples of good mailbox addressing are shown below.





If you should have any questions please contact the Merrimack Fire Marshals Office with any questions.

Fire Department Website: www.merrimacknh.gov/fire