

We can't help you if we can't find you

Have you ever driven down a dark street in a sub-division looking for the home of a friend or relative and not been able to immediately find them? Your emergency services run into this situation far too many times. The majority of people don't realize the time lost because the ambulance or fire truck had to slow down and crawl along a street trying to pick up a house number. These few seconds or minutes could mean the difference in someone's life during a serious medical emergency.

The next time you are driving or walking home after dark, take a minute and check out the homes in your neighbourhood. I think you'll be amazed at how many numbers are not visible under the cover of darkness. There are still some who have no civic number on display at all! Obviously these people are under the impression nothing will ever happen to them that would require emergency services finding them.

In addition to having your civic number properly displayed, it is important to have it lit after dark. Those made from reflective materials stand out at a great distance. If your residence is off the road and difficult to see, you are required by law to post your number at the roadside entrance. Visibility is far more important than looks when it comes to displaying your address. Many homes and businesses have put up their civic number but they are far too small to be easily seen from the street, or do not contrast with the background.

Your municipality has adopted a by-law that requires all businesses and homes to display their civic address. If you are uncertain on the proper requirements for your location, please contact the Town for guidance. And remember, displaying a proper civic number could save the life of a loved one. Please, for the sake of your safety, and all those you cherish, take the time now to insure you have your civic number properly displayed.

Remember to teach fire safety to someone you love!