

BARODA TOWNSHIP HOUSE NUMBERING ORDINANCE

Ordinance governing the installation and maintenance of house numbering in the Township of Baroda, Michigan, and providing for penalties for any violation of this ordinance.

THE TOWNSHIP OF BARODA, BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ORDAINS:

Section 1 - Purposes and Authority: The Baroda Township Board determines that emergency personnel, such as police, fire and ambulance, are hampered in their efforts to respond to emergencies because some home owners do not have their houses marked with visible numbers. Response time of emergency personnel could be greatly enhanced if all homes in Baroda Township were marked with house numbers visible to emergency crews.

MCLA 41.181, MSA 5.45 (1) authorizes Townships to adopt ordinances regulating the health, safety and welfare of persons and property. This ordinance is intended to mandate that all homes in Baroda Township have visible house numbers and to protect the health and welfare of all Baroda Township citizens in case emergency personnel need to respond to an emergency at the home.

Section 2 - Definitions: For the purpose of this Ordinance, certain terms and words are herein defined as follows:

- (a) "Clearly Visible" means visible by a person with normal or corrected 20/20 vision.
- (b) "Baroda Township" means the Township of Baroda, Michigan government.
- (c) "Homeowner" means the owner of residential property in fee simple. For rental units, "homeowner" means the landlord or other owner. "Homeowner" does not include the owner of commercial or industrial property which is not used for residential purposes.
- (d) "Painted" means the use of a permanent paint in sufficient color contrast with the surrounding color to make the paint readable. Reflective paint is the preferred method, although other types of paint are permissible if visible at all times.
- (e) "Residential Purpose" means that the building houses at least one person.

Section 3 - House Numbering Required: All homeowners in Baroda Township are required to display and maintain in a conspicuous manner the numeric designation of the house, as assigned by the Township. As used in this Section, "conspicuous" is defined as follows:

- (a) Home mail delivery: For all houses where the United States Postal Service delivers mail directly to the house and not left in a mailbox not attached to the house, house numbers must be permanently attached to or painted on the house in a size sufficient to be clearly visible for the public highway, street or roadway closest to the front of the house, but in no event will the house numbers be less than four inches in height.
- (b) Rural and other mail delivery: For all houses where the United States Postal Service delivers mail to a mailbox not located on or in a home, house numbers must be permanently attached to or painted on the mailbox in a size and place which allows them to be clearly visible by a person traveling on the roadway closest to the mailbox, but in no event will the numbers be less than three inches in height. In addition, house number must be permanently attached to or painted on the house in a size sufficient to be clearly visible from the public highway, if the house itself is visible from the public highway, but in no event will the house numbers be less than four inches in height.
- (c) No mail delivery: For all houses where the United States Postal Service does not deliver mail, house numbers must be permanently attached to or painted on the house in a size sufficient to be clearly visible from the public highway, street or roadway closest to the front of the house, but

in no event will the house numbers be less than four inches in height.

(d) Houses not visible from the roadway: If the house is not visible from the roadway, the house numbers must be displayed at or near the place where the driveway comes from the public roadway.

Section 4 - Penalties: A homeowner violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be responsible for a civil infraction, and upon being found responsible thereof, shall pay a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for the first offense and a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for second and each subsequent offense. This ordinance shall be prosecuted by County Corporate Counsel.

Section 5 - Severability: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be declared a separate distinct and independent provision, and such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or provisions of this ordinance.

Section 6 - Effective Date: This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after sixty (60) days of the date of its adoption by the Baroda Township Board.

Section 7 - Publication: This ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township of Baroda, State of Michigan, once before the effective date hereof.

Adopted: August 17, 1995


Barbara Reisig, Clerk