

# TOWN OF HEATH

MASSACHUSETTS



FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## **TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF HEATH:**

The Town of Heath reminds residents that street address numbering is required on all residential and commercial buildings by Massachusetts law (MGL Ch. 148, S. 59), Code of Massachusetts Regulation 10.12.1, and by Town of Heath General Bylaws (Section 8.2). Accurate and visible house numbers are a critical part of the E-911 system which helps emergency responders locate a house. The requirement for the street address numbers to be visible from the street is not only a Massachusetts law, Massachusetts Fire Regulation, and the Town of Heath Bylaw, but it is ultimately for your benefit. We all like to think it won't happen to me, but it does! When there is a life threatening emergency, excessive hemorrhaging or cardiac arrest for example, seconds count, not minutes! If we drive past your house because the numbering isn't visible, which happens many times on dark, rainy, and foggy nights, it could be the difference between life or death. A fire can double in size every minute, so the sooner we arrive the better the chances of saving the structure. **If we can't find you, we can't help you. When street address numbers are properly posted, ambulances coming to Heath can easily locate your home.**

The street number listing is available on the website, [www.townofheath.org](http://www.townofheath.org) or at the Town Hall. If you need a number assigned to your property, or have questions, please contact Budge Litchfield who currently serves as E911 Coordinator. He can be reached at 337-4957.

The numbers are required to be a minimum of 3 inches in height, the bigger the better, with a contrasting color to the background which they are mounted on and visible from the street/road. Reflective is even better!

**Please have house numbers posted no later than September 1, 2016.**

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**Enforcement:**

Enforcement of these regulations is contained in the Town of Heath General By-laws Sect. 8.2.5 (see website for full text of Town of Heath Bylaw and MGL Ch. 148, Sect. 59). Failure to comply with this bylaw shall subject the property owner to a fine of not more than \$25.00 for each offense daily after warning by the Police Department. This bylaw shall be enforced by the Police Department. (May 9, 1992). If your property does *not* have a building on it but is used for camping or there may be a reason for an emergency call in the future, the street address should be secured on a post and visible from the road.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this request, and remember this is for your benefit.

Thank you.

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Ken Gilbert, Chief  
Heath Volunteer Fire Department  
Town of Heath

THE HEATH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Sheila Litchfield  
Chairman

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