

**TOWN OF CATO
MANITOWOC COUNTY WISCONSIN
ORDINANCE NO. 2008-2**

**AN ORDINANCE REGARDING PLACEMENT AND
REGULATION OF ADDRESS MARKERS**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Cato, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, pursuant to the police powers of the Town Board and Sections 60.22 and 86.19, Wis. Stat. do ordain as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to maintain address markers on every parcel of real property in the Town of Cato on which is located a habitable structure in a visible location and in good readable condition to facilitate law enforcement, fire prevention and control, medical and safety services, and for the general convenience of the public. The Town of Cato will maintain the visibility (plant growth, trees, etc.) for the address marker.

Section 2. Installation of Markers. The Town of Cato shall furnish to each property owner the numbers, which may variously be described as the fire numbers for the property and/or the address number. The numbers are primarily to indicate the address and assist the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department, ambulance services and Cato emergency agencies in locating a specific property. The Town of Cato shall install these numbers on a steel post. The height of the post shall be between four and five feet so that the numbers are clearly visible from the driven portion of a road or highway adjoining the property. Said post and numbers shall be installed within fifteen (15) feet of either side of the driveway entrance leading into the property and on the Town of Cato road right-a-way limits. The sign shall be perpendicular to the adjacent roadway centerline and project towards the roadway from the post. After installation, the Town will make available at the landowner's expense materials to repair or replace the address marker, but the maintenance and preservation of the marker shall be the responsibility of the owner of the real estate for which the marker was furnished. Persons wishing to relocate the signs after initial installation must get approval from the Town Board or its designee.

Section 3. Notice of Violation and Enforcement. If the address marker of a property is not properly located or is obliterated, damaged, destroyed or removed, any Town official may issue a notice to the property owner to restore the marker within thirty (30) days. The notice shall state that upon the failure to take corrective action as directed in the notice, the Town may, at its option, cause the work to be done in the manner it deems appropriate, and will charge back the costs thereof to the owner. Upon completion of the work, the Town shall bill the owner for the costs thereof, and shall notify the owner that failure to pay the costs within thirty (30) days of the date of the bill will result in placing the cost of repairing or replacing the marker on the owner's tax bill as a special assessment against the property pursuant to 66.0627, 66.071, and 86.19(5) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Section 4. Penalties. Any person who obliterates, removes, damages, destroys, fails to properly locate or fails to timely replace an address marker or otherwise violates this Ordinance shall forfeit not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for each offense plus any penalty or other assessments imposed by statute and the cost of prosecution. Each day a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

Section 5. Injunctive Relief. In addition to all other remedies available, the Town Board of Cato may authorize the commencement of appropriate action or proceeding to prohibit the owner, resident, agent or occupant of the real estate within the Town of Cato from removing, destroying, obliterating or damaging an address marker in violation of this ordinance.

Section 6. Severability. If any section clause, provision or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Dated this 4th day of August, 2008.

Town of Cato

By: _____
Gerald Linsmeier, Chairman

Chuck Schuh, Supervisor

Donald Hastreiter, Supervisor

Attest:

Mary Muench, Town Clerk/Treasurer