

Pondera County, MT – Addressing System Overview

This atlas was created by Mapping and Planning Specialists, Inc. (MaPS, Inc.) for Pondera County, MT as part of an overall contract to implement an Enhanced 9-1-1 System for the County, including Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping and Addressing. The intent of the overall E-911 system is so that persons dialing 9-1-1 within the County will be routed to the Pondera County Sheriff's Department where their name, address, phone number and map location will automatically display on screen to assist dispatchers to facilitate emergency response.

As part of the MaPS, Inc. contract, the existing rural addresses in Pondera County were replaced with a distance-based rural addressing system using 1,000 address numbers per mile. The entire road network in the county was canvassed and each road measured with a Digital Measuring Instrument (DMI). Rural addresses were assigned based on the distance (measured via the DMI) from a road's origin to the access points (e.g. driveways) of the rural structures. From each origin, the left side of the road was designated as "odd" and the right side as "even" and the address numbers assigned accordingly. The major highways/roads (US Highways 91 N and S, Business 15/Interstate 15, Brady Rd, Sollid Rd, Ledger Rd, Pendroy Rd, Conrad-Dupuyer Rd, Valier Hwy, Valier-Cut Bank Hwy, US Highway 89, etc.) within the county were established as baselines. All roads that diverged from these baselines were addressed from the baseline to their intersection with another distinctively named road or their dead end. As other roads branched off, the addressing started again from zero (0) and progressed accordingly. For roads that did not originate from the baselines, the ends closest to Conrad, the County seat, were designated as the origins. The mileage reference markers (MRM) on the baseline highways were used as block ranges to assign addresses whenever their progression matched the progression of the rural addressing. Each rural road was distinctively named, without duplication in other areas of the County.

Conrad, Valier, Brady, Dupuyer and Ledger were also mapped and their existing addressing systems were reviewed and approved by the County and Cities as part of an overall Addressing Ordinance that was adopted in 2002. Each community retained its existing address system based on 100 numbers per block, however, some existing addresses were revised to ensure the overall addressing system was logical and accurate.

As part of the overall addressing and mapping program, Pondera County intends to install rural intersection signs. Many of the communities have already installed intersection signs, but a review of the existing signs is needed in anticipation of upgrades. Private lanes have been established (two or more structures using a common access that is at least 300 feet or longer) and will be signed accordingly to indicate their private nature (e.g. blue sign blades versus green sign blades for public roads).

Questions regarding any of this information should be directed to the Pondera County Disaster and Emergency Services Office at (406) 271-4040, including any requests for the assignment of new physical addresses. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this atlas and the data it contains, mistakes and omissions may occur. Please contact the County DES Office if you find any errors herein. Periodic reprints (e.g. annually) are anticipated, which will contain any updates or revisions. Additional atlases and other map products are available at the Pondera County Courthouse at 20 SW 4th Ave in Conrad from the Clerk & Recorder's Office. Thank you.