

# UNDERSTANDING ADDRESSING

## Assigning and Corrections/Changes

In 2008 The Board of County Commissioners passed two resolutions pertaining to the Montezuma County Road Address System, Resolution 22-2008 and Resolution 6-2009.

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### Resolution 22-2008-

Placing responsibility on the Montezuma County Addressing Office to identify and correct all rural addresses that do not conform to the grid system maintained by Montezuma County. Starting with township 34N and the Colorado/Utah border working SOUTH TO NORTH and WEST TO EAST numerically and alphabetically. With our county not being flat and having both canyons and mountains the grid system has been used in the most logical way. With each mile section there are 1000 points to address from.

### Resolution 6-2009-

Giving responsibility and authorization to the Montezuma County Addressing Office to implement the assigning and changing of addresses in a uniform manner to meet emergency response requirements in accordance with the Road Naming and Address System Standards.

[This is a shortened and condensed version, it is highly recommended to read the resolutions in full.](http://montezumacounty.org/web/departments/road-bridge/addressing/)

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Montezuma County is broken into 1 mile by 1 mile “sections” a majority of county roads run along the section lines. Each section of roadway has 1000 units used for addressing. With ODD numbering on the NORTH and WEST sides of a roadway EVEN numbering on the SOUTH and EAST sides of a roadway. This has become confusing as not all sections are exactly a mile. If a road is not on a section line it is given a percentile name that correlates to its location ie. Road Z.25 or Road 27.5.

**PRIVATE** or “**RED**” roads are NOT maintained by Montezuma County. The purpose of a “RED” road is for *identification only*. A “*driveway*” is described as an access that serves *two or less* residential structures per Montezuma County Road and Bridge Standards. As the county has urbanized some driveway accesses have grown to include many residents from the same access point of a county road. In a situation like this we will designate a “RED” road as an *identifier* and address those residents from the new “red” road section. This does NOT mean the county has taken over a private road or driveway it is *solely* to identify to emergency responders, utility workers, and delivery drivers etc. a location. When a “RED” road has been assigned the maintenance and care is placed on residents that use that access. Use of any “red” road is up to the discretion of residents that use that access as a whole.

## Understanding Addressing

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We are an ever growing community with new homes, sub-divisions and businesses that need to be addressed uniformly. Emergency responders, local and state law enforcement have not always lived and grown up in this area. It has become vital for both health and safety personnel to be able to reach a location with speed and precision. Many county road address numbers are out of sequence or addressed to the wrong road making it difficult for emergency responders to locate driveways where the address number indicates it should have been. With the size and population of Montezuma County the addressing office is unable to identify property that is rented or leased therefore it is the **PROPERTY OWNERS RESPONSIBILITY** to notify *any* and *all* renters or lessees of any address corrections made on properties owned.

An address change does *not* change or modify property deeds or legal description. The Assessor's Office will receive notice of the address change and *will* change the **LOCATION ADDRESS** but **WILL NOT CHANGE THE MAILING ADDRESS**. Many people have a P.O. Box or live in a different town or state. If you have received a Change of Address Notification please contact the Montezuma County Assessor's Office to verify the MAILING address as this is where all tax information and voter registrations are sent.

Local Post Offices and the Address Management System will be electronically sent information regarding address corrections. You are *not* required to notify the Post Office. *If* you receive your mail through a rural mail carrier the numbers on your mailbox should be changed as soon as possible. The Post Office will forward mail for a period of **ONE YEAR** after receiving the electronic notice.

Montezuma County Notifies 911 services, Empire Electric, Propane Distributors, Gas Companies, Landline Telephone companies, as well as UPS and Fed-X. **ALL** other parties that you receive RURAL mail from will have to be notified, as in mortgage companies, banks, cell phone providers etc.

As well as...

**Colorado DMV Cortez office 970-565-9779** Driver License address change, there will be no charge for an address change unless renewing your current license.

**County Clerk and Recorder's office 970-565-3728** Motor Vehicle Registration and Voter Registration, there will be no charge for an address change unless renewing.

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If you have any further questions or concerns please contact:

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