

Rural Addressing

9-1-1

How it works

Rural addressing allows 911 operators to help fire; ambulance and police find your home quickly in the event of an emergency. When seconds count, there is real peace of mind knowing that help is on the way - directly.

Your rural address effectively provides an address and a house number for every household on your property. A rural address is not the same as a legal land description (which provides a land location, but does not identify individual residences on a property) or a postal address, which directs mail through Canada Post.



How it Works

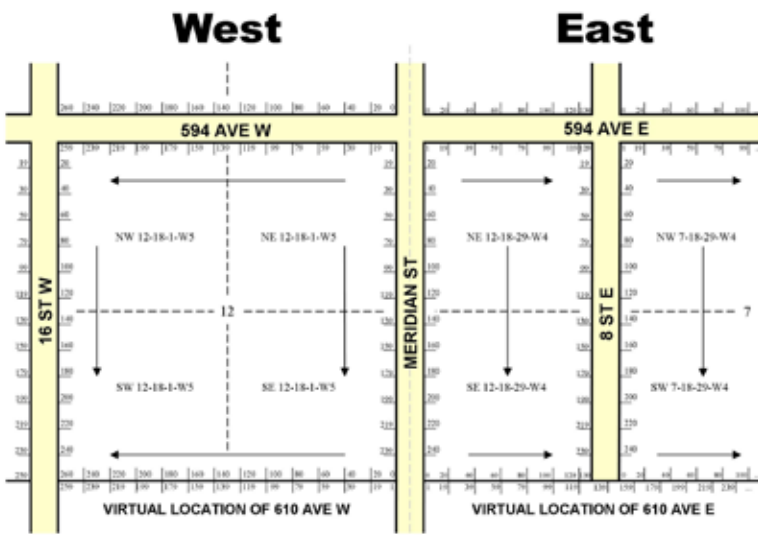
Rural addresses in the MD of Foothills were developed using the existing street/avenue grid, where street and avenue numbers increase every 100 meters. The address is a result of this number in combination with the existing road number.

Rural addresses in the MD of Foothills were developed using the existing street/avenue grid, where street and avenue numbers increase every 100 meters – whether an actual road exists or not. Our addressing system is based on a 1-mile grid. Each mile (5280 feet or 1609 meters) is divided into 260 address units.

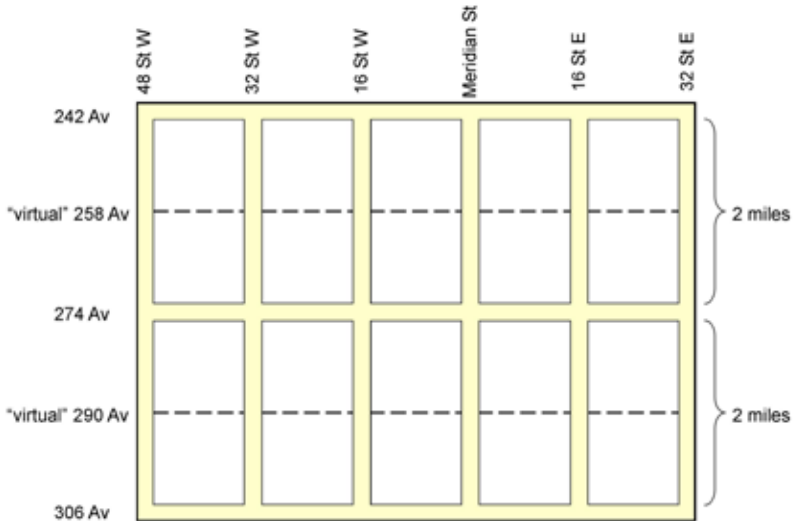
- Streets run vertical (north/south) and avenues run horizontal (east/west).
- Avenue numbers start at 146 (which aligns with Calgary's 146th Ave) and increase southward
- The Street numbers originate from Meridian Street (implied number 0) and increase outward in both east and west directions (e.g. 16th St E, 16 St W)
- Rural addresses end with "E" or "W" to indicate the driveway location in relation to Meridian St.

EXCEPTION: in hamlets or subdivisions with pre-existing civic addressing system, where "E" and "W" might be confusing

- Driveways on the north or east side of the road are assigned EVEN numbers
- Driveways on the south or west side of the road are assigned ODD numbers
- The address number may be up to 6-digits long and is divided into two parts. The first 3 digits is reserved for the reference street or avenue number, while the last 3 digits consist of the address unit – a number between 1 and 260



Undeveloped road allowances may be referenced in an address as a “virtual” street or avenue. Similarly, the dotted line between quarters in the diagram below provides for potential “forced” roads between sections, and is referenced here as “virtual” avenues.



If your address references a non-existent street or avenue, it will always be the number of the street or avenue on an undeveloped surveyed road allowance or the number of a “forced” east/west road allowance between sections, as show above.

Street Addresses – driveway is on a street or a 1000-series Drive

- Street addresses increase southwards
- Driveways on streets or 1000-series drives are measure from the nearest avenue to the north.
 - If an avenue is present between the standard 1-mile distance, the address assigned to the driveway would reference the number of the actual avenue immediately north of the driveway, and the address units start over from 1.
- Street addresses are always 6 digits long, followed by the street number or name
 - If the address unit is less than 3 digits, 0's are used as placeholders in the second part of the address (e.g. 001 to 099)

Avenue Addresses – driveway is on an avenue or a 2000-series drive

- Avenue addresses increase eastward and westward from Meridian St.
- Driveways on avenues west of Meridian St. are measured from the nearest street immediately east of the driveway, while driveways on avenues east of Meridian St. are measured from the nearest street immediately west of the driveway
- Avenue addresses may be 1 to 6 digits long – depending on the reference street number
 - If the address references Meridian St, the first part of the address (first 3 digits) is omitted, and the address consists only of a number between 1 and 260 (the driveway's address unit).
e.g. 2 434 Av W not 000002 434 Av W
 - If the address references a street number that is 1 or greater, the second part of the address always consists of 3 digits (numbers from 1 to 260), with 0's used as placeholders.
 - If the address references a street number between 1 and 9, the address is 4 digits long.
e.g. 8002 434 Av W; 2220 434 Av E
 - If the address references a street number between 10 and 99, the address is 5 digits long.
e.g. 16130 434 Av W; 80065 434 Av E
 - If the address references a street number greater than 99, the address is 6 digits long
- If one or more streets were developed between the standard mile, the address assigned to the driveway would reference the number of the actual street immediately next to the driveway in the direction of Meridian St., and the address units start over from 1.

Shared Driveways or Private Roads

- Many residents share a driveway with a neighboring land owner. In these cases, a "suite" number precedes the driveway address in multiples of 100
 - A driveway runs in a north/south direction, providing access for 2 properties – the northern most property on the driveway is 100, and the southern most property is 200.
Examples: 100 8004 530 Av W and 200 8004 530 Av W
 - A driveway runs in a east/west direction, providing access for 2 properties – the property closest to Meridian St is 100, and the property farthest from Meridian St is 200
Examples: 100 530104 8 St E and 200 530104 8 St E

New 4-digit Drives

- Hills, gullies, creeks and rivers compelled the Municipality or the Province to build roads that angled across country. Previously, diagonal roads built by the municipality were assigned a street or avenue number – “what it would be, if it were straight.”
- All addresses must be unique. When we examined the addresses that would be assigned to driveways on the numbered diagonal roads, we discovered that duplicate addresses could occur (now or in the future), if we used the existing street/avenue designation. To remedy this situation, a new 4-digit number was developed and assigned to the diagonal road, as follows:
 - Steeply sloped diagonal roads – those that angle between 45 and 135° – were assigned a 4-digit number in the 1000 series. The “virtual” street number at the end of the road closest to Meridian St was used to determine the new drive number

e.g. 271 Street became 1271 Drive

Addresses on these roads follow the “Street Address” procedures described above. The first 3 digits reference the avenue north of the driveway.

- Gently sloped diagonal roads – angles between 135 and 180° – were assigned a 4-digit number in the 2000 series. The “virtual” avenue number at the most northerly end of the road was used to determine the new drive number

e.g. 205 Av became 2205 Drive

Addresses on these roads follow the “Avenue Address” procedures described above. The first three digits reference the street east or west of the driveway.

- Rural addresses NEVER use the 4-digit drive in the first part of an address. The nearest street or avenue is referenced instead

Example: A driveway located 600 meters south of (real or virtual) 274 Av on the east side of 1080 Dr W.

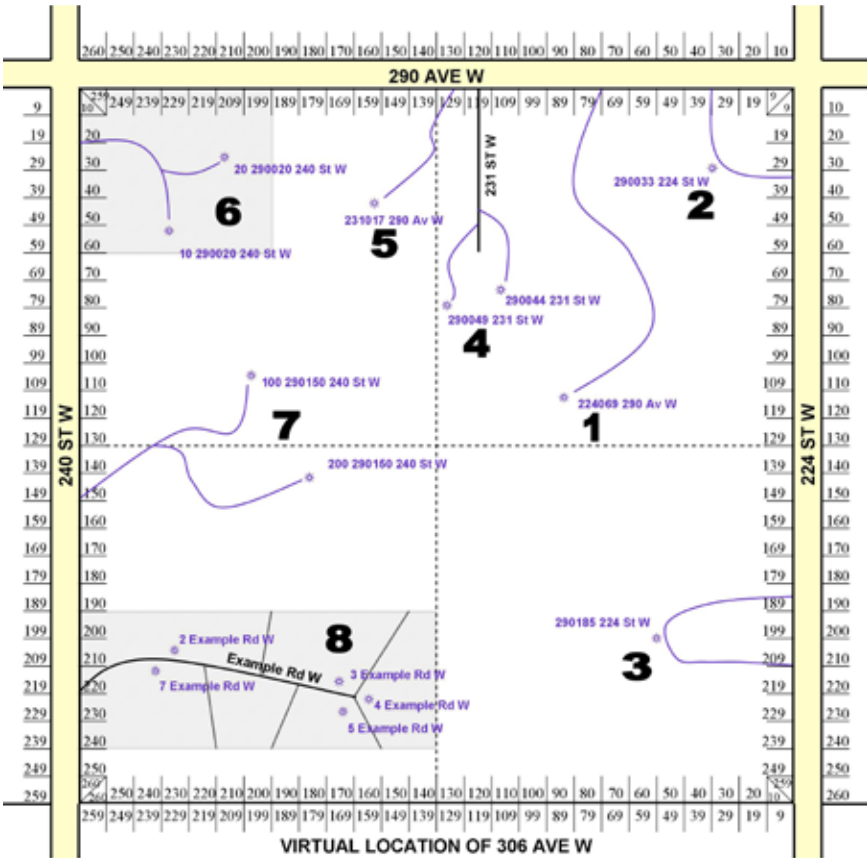
- The address is 274100 1080 Dr W

Hamlets

- Many hamlets already had their own addressing systems, the municipality attempted to retain these addresses whenever possible

Aldersyde Blackie Cayley DeWinton Naptha

Examples of 9-1-1 Addressing



EXAMPLE 1 224069 290 Av W

The access is along the south side of 290th Ave W. It is located in address interval 069, approximately 427m west of 224 St W

EXAMPLE 2 290033 224 St W

When the driveway can be accessed from either the street or avenue, the fastest, most direct route is chosen for the address interval location. In this case, the access along 224th St in a ddress interval 33, south of 290 Ave W

EXAMPLE 3 290185 224 St W

When there are multiple accesses located along the same road, the first or most obvious is chosen

EXAMPLE 4 290044 & 290049 231 St W

Located along the internal road of 231 St W, the driveways are located in address intervals 44 and 49, respectively, south of 290 Ave W

EXAMPLE 5 231017 290 Av W

When a numbered internal road exists, driveways to the west are referenced from that road and the address intervals restart

The access is along the south side of 290th Ave W. It is located in address interval 17, approximately 105m west of 231 St W

EXAMPLE 6 10 & 20 290020 240 St W

When there are multiple residences located on the same parcel of land with a common access, a Suite Number, in multiples of 10, is assigned to each one

EXAMPLE 7 100 & 200 2901590 240 St W

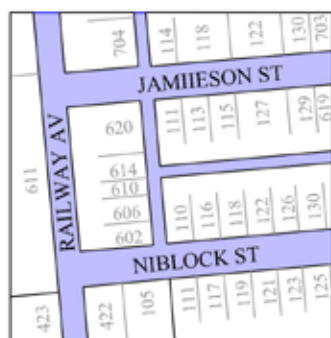
When there are multiple residences with a common primary access, located on separate parcels of land a Suite Number, in multiples of 100, is assigned to each one

EXAMPLE 8 2 – 7 Example Rd W

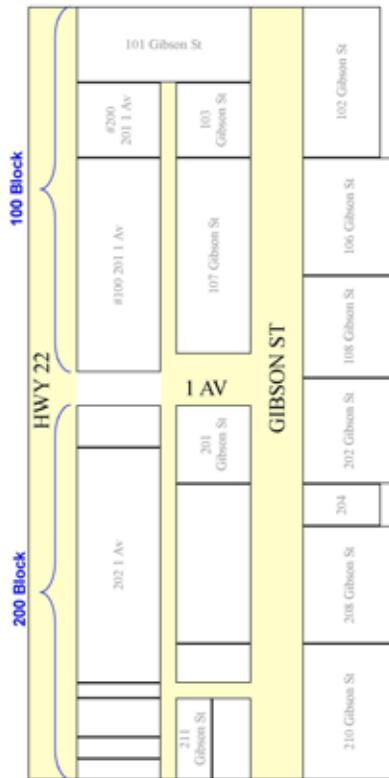
Subdivision addresses are also based on the primary access of a road allowance

The lots are consecutively numbered, most often in a clockwise order and if possible following the guideline for ODD and EVEN designation.

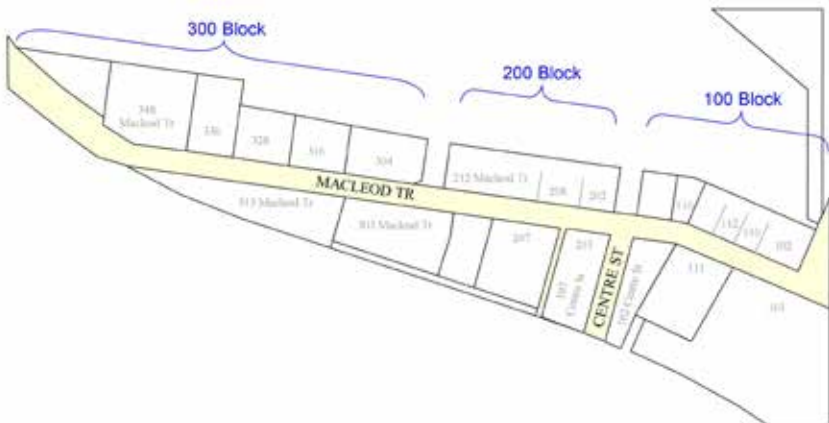
Cayley



Naptha



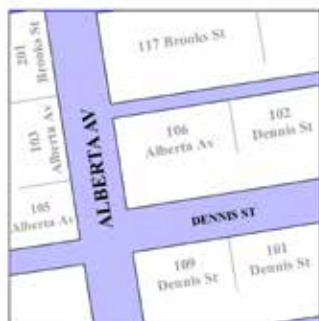
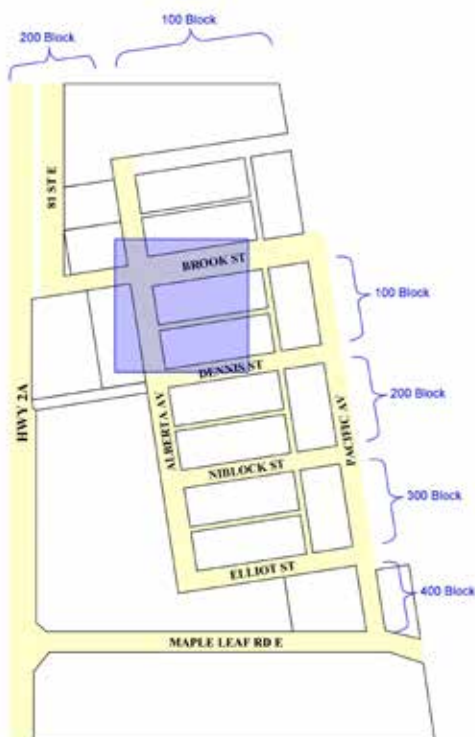
DeWinton



Blackie



Aldersyde



Frequently Asked Questions

Q What are the benefits of using a 911 Address over a Legal Land Location?

A A Legal Land Location can tell you that a property is located somewhere on a specific quarter section, but a 911 Address will pinpoint the access to the property off a road allowance. Also, since many quarter sections are being subdivided there may be multiple landowners with the same Legal Land Location. In an emergency, a reduced response time can mean the difference between life and death.

Q What information is required if I want to request a new or confirm an existing 911 Address?

A The more information you can provide the better. A tax roll number is the best identifier for a land parcel.

Q What do I do with my new 911 address once I get it?

A Memorize it! Your new 911 address is primarily for emergency response. If you ever need to call 911, give the 911 dispatcher this address. It is recommended you post this address on or near every phone in your house and that you educate your children/other household members as to what your 911 address is, what it is for and how it should be used in the event of an emergency. Also, most service providers (TELUS, Shaw etc.) require this address as a site location in order to receive service. Please check with your service providers that this is the site location they have for you on file.

Q Can the 911 Address be used as a mailing address?

A No. The MD of Foothills does not have any postal codes, which are required in order to receive postal service. Your current Canada Post mailing address will not change, so please continue using your existing mailing address to send and receive postal correspondences. Do NOT use your 911 Address on legal documents.

Q Who assigns the 911 Addresses and who will have access to my address?

A The 911 addressing information is assigned and maintained by the MD of Foothills GIS department. The addresses are shared with TELUS Communications, 911 Dispatch and Emergency Responders. TELUS may publish your address in both “normal” and “reverse” telephone directories. Please contact TELUS Customer Service (310-2255) if you would like your 911 Address published.

Q Is it mandatory?

A No. In the MD of Foothills, signage is not mandatory but it is highly recommended in order to ensure efficient response time in the event of an emergency. In order to receive service, many providers require an address be assigned to your land parcel.

Q Where can I get a sign and how much do they cost?

A The cost to have a blue 911 sign made is approximately \$50 – \$60. There are many local sign-making businesses that operate within the MD, some of which are listed here.

Signs 'N' Such.....	Black Diamond	519-8575
Moose Mountain General Store.....	Bragg Creek.....	949-3147
Schultz Signs.....	High River.....	652-7815
Simply Extreme Signs & Graphics	High River.....	601-8475
DBP Signs/Nanton Print Shop	Nanton	646-2833
Alberta Traffic Supply.....	Calgary.....	248-3241