



## Anchorage Fire Department • Wildfire Mitigation Office

PO Box 196650 • Anchorage, AK • 99519

Phone 907.267.4980 • Fax 907.243.1654

[www.muni.org/fire](http://www.muni.org/fire)



## *PROPERTY ACCESS & SIGNS*

### **Clearly Identify Road Signs and Addresses**

- Firefighting personnel must be able to immediately travel to and locate your home if they are to provide fire suppression.
- Your street name and address should be clearly printed in letters and numbers that are at least four inches tall, on a contrasting color background. They should be visible from all directions of travel for at least 150 feet. The sign should be made of non-combustible and reflective materials.
- All of the streets and roads in your area should be labeled.
- If your house is set back from the road, post your house number at the entrance of your driveway.
- In situations where more than one home is accessed from a single driveway, all addresses should be posted at the street and at each appropriate intersection along that driveway.
- Create two access routes to your home if possible. A circular driveway provides good access and a firebreak for your home.

### **Provide Fast Access to Your House**

- Even if your street and house are clearly identified for firefighters, precious time can be lost if firefighters have difficulty accessing your house. Narrow roads, dead-end streets, steep driveways, and weak bridges can delay firefighters or prevent them from arriving at all.
- Keep in mind firefighting equipment is much larger and heavier than your car or truck.
- Every dead-end street or long driveway should have a turnaround area designed as either a "T" or a circle large enough to allow fire equipment to turn around. Fire engines need a minimum turnaround radius of 60 feet on dead-end roads and cul-de-sacs.
- You can improve visibility for emergency personnel by clearing away flammable vegetation at least 5 – 10 feet from all private roads and driveways. If possible, remove or prune coniferous vegetation even further and make sure that trees and shrubs are widely spaced. Removal of any overhanging tree branches above the road will give you and your neighbors a better evacuation route and will provide arriving firefighters greater protection.
- A two-way driveway should be at least 18 feet wide and have an all-weather surface to accommodate fire engines. Remove overhanging branches to create at least 15 feet of overhead clearance.