



Addressing A Guide For Tribes

5555 **NW** **Sample** **AVE** **S** **Unit #2**

**PRE DIRECTION** **NAME** **TYPE** **POST DIRECTION** **UNIT**

- Across Indian Country, **homes do not have addresses**. This lack of addressing leads to an inability for the U.S. Postal Service to pick up and deliver mail. As a result, Native Americans have increased difficulty voting, conducting commerce, and engaging with their community.
- NARF in partnership with the Democracy Fund, is here to provide support to tribes and communities looking to address homes on Indian lands. Addressing that is compliant with the U.S. Postal Service's format **ensures that delivery can be conducted** once the addressing is complete. Additionally, the postal service template is widely accepted on voting registration forms and commercial and utility applications of all kinds.
- Federal support for addressing efforts is available. **Learn more at: vote.narf.org**

| House Number

- o Single digit or more
- o If there are multiple buildings, have uniform approach to either different house numbers to each building or designate secondary address (see "unit")
- o Standing facing North, all houses on the Right, or East side of the street, are ODD Numbers. Those on the Left, or West side of the street, are EVEN Numbers
- o Number providing allowances for future homes if there is space/plot for such

Pre and/or Post Direction

- o Optional field
- o Before or after the name, or both
- o **ACCEPTED/PREFERRED:** N, S, E, W, NE, NW, SE, SW

Name

- o If using numeric street names, use the digit (IE 7th versus Seventh)
- o Consider how long the name is & ease of signage/use
- o **ACCEPTED:** periods, slashes, and hyphens
- o **AVOID:** accents, special characters, use of direction or type as name (IE Main Street Dr, South St)

Type

- o **ACCEPTED/PREFERRED:** DR, ST, WY, RD, CIR, AVE, etc.

Unit

- o Secondary address unit designation for multi-occupant dwelling
- o Keep designations uniform for given address
- o **ACCEPTED/PREFERRED:** APT, BLDG, FL, UNIT, etc.
- o **AVOID:** use of "#" (unless space in between pound symbol)

In General

- o Keep the naming system simple
- o Avoid words that require special characters or punctuation
- o Build upon existing (even if unofficial) names for ease of adoption
- o Full USPS addressing information available here: https://pe.usps.com/text/pub28/28c1_001.htm
- o USPS Contact for Tribal Addressing:

