

-MAILBOXES- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q. Why are we changing the colors of the mailboxes?

A. The old ECA requirements were confusing and acquiring the paint to match the colors of the house on the lot where the mailboxes are located was too difficult. It was reported that some prospective buyers commented negatively on the poor condition and mish-mash of colors of the mailboxes.

Q. Why were these new colors chosen?

A. Several color consultants recommended the colors so that the mailboxes blended better into the neighborhood and didn't detract from the landscaping or the houses.

Q. My mailbox is fine, why do I need to replace it?

A. You don't need to replace your mailbox if it meets all the requirements of the City of Woodbury and the ECA. You may only need to repaint it, but very few mailboxes in Evergreen meet the city requirements for height and setback. Many also don't meet the ECA structural design requirements that have been in place for many years.

Q. I am not a handyman. Do you know of anyone I can contact to replace the mailbox?

A. The ECA has identified two contractors who can replace or in many cases, repair your mailbox assemblies. However, you can hire anyone you wish but the mailboxes must meet the ECA and City requirements for construction, colors and installation.

Q. Who are those contractors?

A. Dave Klemmensen (651-739-1704) will build the wood structures to the ECA standards. Darrell Forbes (612-865-9266) will install, paint or repair mailboxes. He will also build them if necessary.

Q. What are the new requirements for the mailbox design and colors and how should it be installed?

A. You should have received a letter detailing the requirements. In addition, all the information is posted and available on our website: www.evergreeninwoodbury.org

Q. My mailbox post is leaning sideways, is it possible to replace only the post or just straighten it?

A. It may be possible to replace only parts of the mailbox wood structure depending on your specific circumstance. However, it may prove to be more costly to remove and replace portions of it rather than install a new one.

Q. If I raise my mailbox post up and reset it to meet the city requirements, will it still be long enough to be below the frost line?

A. Probably not. Most of the mailboxes in Evergreen used only an 8 foot post when originally installed. A 10 foot post is now required to meet the height requirement and still be below the frost line.

Q. Why do I care if the post isn't deep enough to be below the frost line?

A. If the post is not below the frost line, the freezing and thawing of the ground will cause the post assembly to lean and eventually fall over.

Q. Why can't I use treated lumber for the 4" x 6" post?

A. Treated lumber, as specified by the manufacturer, should not be painted for at least a year after installation because paints and stains will not adhere to the surface. Paint will chip and peel and the posts require much more maintenance to look good. Treated lumber also has a tendency to split along the grain and often twists with age. Both of these can result in a poor looking mailbox and would require earlier replacement.

Q. The Sherwin Williams Duration paint you've specified is only available in 1 gallon cans. I don't need nearly that much to paint my mailbox so what do I do with the rest of it?

A. The SW Duration paint was chosen based on its superior weathering and fade resistance. Neighbors should work together and split the cost of the paint.

Q. Can I use brass or reflective numbers to attach to the side of the mailbox or the wood assembly?

A. No, all numbers should be routed and painted.

Q. But I already have reflective numbers on my mailbox and I don't have a router. How can I get the numbers routed in place?

A. Assuming you don't need a new mailbox assembly, one of the two contractors that the ECA Board has identified will be able to route the numbers into your existing assembly.

Q. Can I decorate my mailbox?

A. No. The whole purpose of the new standards is to make all the mailboxes a uniform color and design. They will blend better into the neighborhood allowing the beauty of the homes and landscaping to stand out. In addition, it will create more of a visual sense of a unified community.

Q. There are 3 mailboxes in front of my house. Can we put them together all on one post?

A. No, each mailbox should be on its own post assembly. Where there are multiple mailboxes in one location, they should be separated by at least 36"

Q. Is there a deadline for new mailboxes?

A. At this time, the ECA board has not set a deadline for completing the updating of the mailboxes. However, we expect all mailboxes to be in compliance by the end of 2012.

Q. I think my mailbox is fine and I don't want to put any money in it. Why should I?

A. First, we all want to maintain the beauty and value of our homes and the Evergreen neighborhood. The current state of the mailboxes has been identified as detracting from the appearance and potential value of the homes in Evergreen. These new standards address that problem. Secondly, the covenants for Evergreen are attached to your deed. They clearly state that the ECA Board can define the mailbox requirements for all Evergreen residents. For the benefit of all the residents in Evergreen, please reconsider your position and bring your mailbox up to the new standards.

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