

County of McKean

Department of Emergency Services

What are some common reasons for an address change?

Refer to maps below for examples

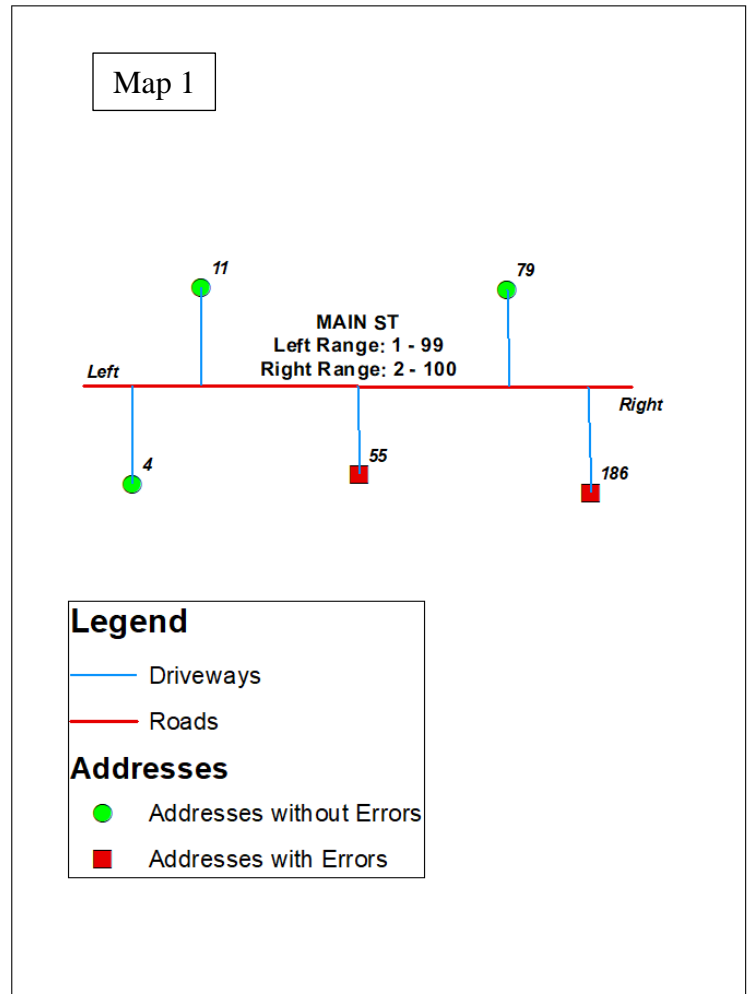
- **Number out of sequence or road range (Map 1)**

186 Main Street is out of the road range.

Road range for the right side of Main St is 2-100.

- **Odd Number on even side of the road, vice versa (Map 1)**

55 Main Street is on the even side of Main Street



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- **More than 1 structure being accessed via a shared driveway (Map 2)**

56, 58, 60, 62 Main Street are all accessed via the same, shared driveway

- **New Development**

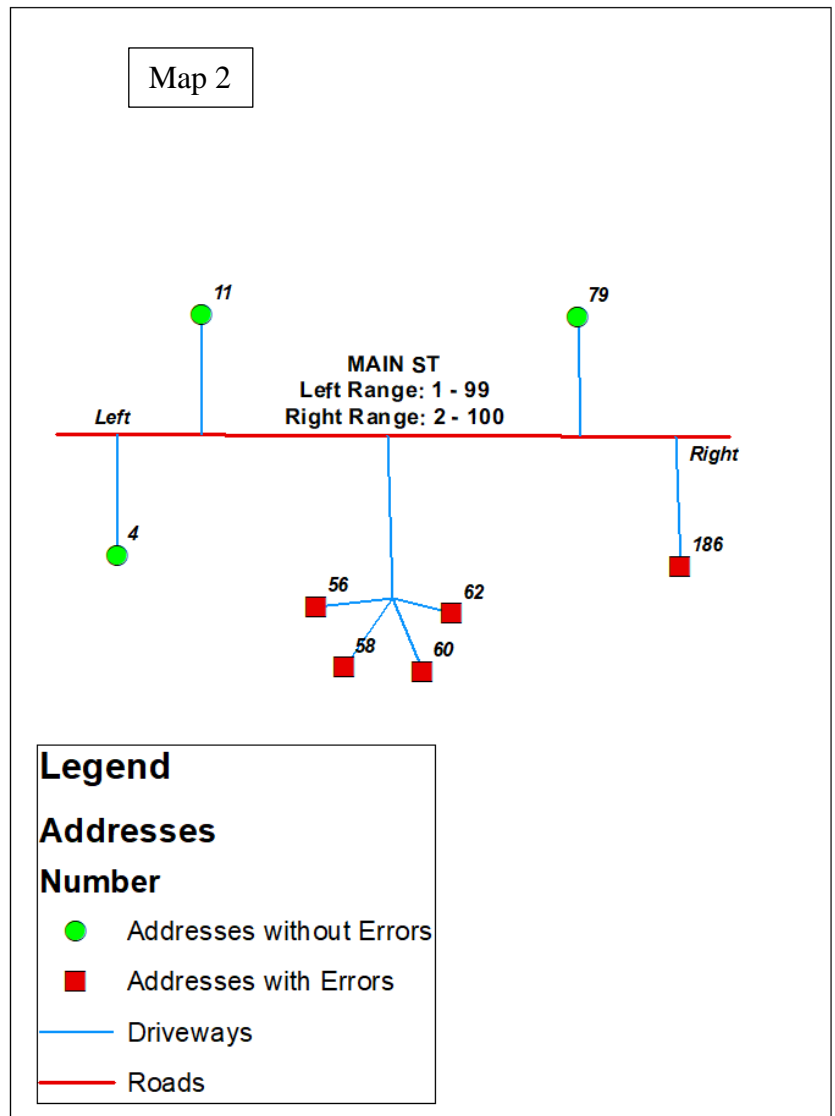
New residence, business, commercial structure, etc. to be built

- **Duplicative addresses needing unique delimiter, i.e. Units, Apartment Numbers, Suites**

A strip mall, multiple residential structure, office complex, etc.

- **Road name does not meet minimum NENA / PEMA standards**

Ex. 123 West Mississippi Avenue Extension Rear Boulevard, Anytown, PA 16700



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How do you come up with the numbers you assign?

We generate the address numbers based on a standard formula. For every 21.12 feet of a road, is the next sequential address, i.e. 1 3 5, etc. (in most municipalities). This is based on where the access for the structure is. This could mean based on where the driveway intersects the roadway or if you don't have a driveway, where the place of ingress/egress is for a structure, perpendicular to the accessing roadway.

Can I request a custom address, like "123 Cool Guy Lane"?

Generally, no. We utilize best practices and industry standards. If your custom address request meets the best practices and standards, your address request may be honored, however, this is not typical.

How long does it take to get an address?

We attempt to provide new addresses as soon as possible. Generally, it takes between 1 business day and 1 week to provide an applicant with a new, verified, 911-valid address. We provide addresses in the form of an Address Verification letter.

Is the address you assign also my mailing address?

Yes, generally the address we assign will be the mailing address. The only exception may be if you elect to purchase a PO Box rather than receiving rural delivery. This will cause a minor change to your address, for example, adding a zip code suffix after the standard 5-digit zip code, or incorporating the "PO Box ###" into your address.

I was assigned an address, but Google Maps or GPS doesn't recognize that address or shows the wrong location, can you fix it?

County 911 addressing is not directly connected to Google Maps, other big tech firms, or GPS Technology. We register all of our addresses with the Postal Service. These companies typically purchase address data from the Postal Service and other big tech firms, a few times a year. McKean County verifies and synchronizes all addresses with Postal Service. If the company purchases some Postal Service data that includes your new address, then the issue may be rectified. Lastly, if you would like, you can go to: <https://www.gps.gov/support/user/mapfix/devices-and-maps/>; on this page, you can submit address corrections to providers and applications like Google Maps, Waze, Uber, Garmin, and more.

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How do I apply for a new 911 address, a 911 address verification, or another address request?

There is an online form on the McKean County Website under the Emergency Services Department. Go to mckeancountypa.org, go to departments on the left-hand

side, click on Emergency Services (or GIS), click the “New 911 Address Request” link under the resources list. Here is the direct link for the form:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/895d466c29ce43e2b137d66e87cad6f4>

The above link is also included on the county’s parcel viewer:

<https://mckeancountypa.org/basicparcelviewer/>

Now that I have been assigned a 911-valid address, what does McKean County require for the addressing number sign on my property?

McKean County is not the governmental entity that enforces 911 address signage at an individual property. That falls under the jurisdiction of the municipality. We recommend referring to your municipality’s 911 address signage ordinance (may be called something different) by contacting your municipality. Some municipalities and fire departments sell reflective address signs. Inquire with your local municipality or fire department for more information about acquiring an address sign that complies with their standards and is consistent with your neighbors / community.

Now that I have a 911-valid address, who do I need to inform?

When we assign an address, we inform the municipality, Police, Fire, & EMS, County Voter Registration / Elections, & County Tax Assessment. We verify that the Postal Service will accept the address and assign it to the proper zip code. You will need to take the address verification letter we provide, and finalize mail delivery by taking said letter to your local post office. You will also need to inform all utility companies, insurance companies, financial institutions, friends & family, state Department of Transportation (new licenses and registration). This is not as daunting as it may seem. For the most part, you can send a copy of the address verification letter we provide, with your utility bills, or mail the address verification letter to the various agencies. You can either inform them that your address has been changed by the County 911 / Emergency Services department or that you have moved and need to rectify your address within their system. Also, if you take the address verification letter we provide to your local PennDOT driver’s license center, the PennDOT staff can assist you in rectifying your address for your driver’s license and vehicle registration. If the **county has changed your address**, PennDOT will make the changes to your license & registration (including CDL) free of charge.

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The county assigned me a new 911-address, but my tax bills are listing an incorrect mailing address, what do I do?

You may need to send a letter to the McKean County Assessment Office, that asks for your **mailing address** to be updated. The McKean County Assessment Office maintains 2 addresses for all tax parcels: a mailing address and a situs (“physical”) address. When we assign an 911-valid address, and inform the Assessment Office, they ensure that the **situs address** is updated to match the **911-valid address**. However, they cannot update the mailing address without written documentation from the property owner. For more information, contact the Assessment Office, at 814-887-3215.

Is there a website where I can view valid-911 address in McKean County?

Yes, all 911-valid addresses in McKean County, are on the McKean County Basic Parcel Viewer: <https://mckeancountypa.org/basicparcelviewer/>

What is Next Generation 911 and what is the importance of it?

Next Generation 911 (NG911) is a standards-based, Internet Protocol (IP) emergency communications infrastructure that enables voice & multimedia 911 communications. NG911 utilizes geographic information systems (GIS) to accurately route calls to the public safety answering point (PSAP). Some benefits on NG911 include:

1. NG911 systems are broadband enabled to allow PSAPs to receive bandwidth data from callers: images, video, and sensor data in order to provide telecommunicators with unprecedented situational awareness, better informed decision making, and help First Responders do their jobs more effectively while keeping them safer. A NG911 infrastructure is required to make this work.
2. NG911 systems are also IP-based which means that PSAPs can be interconnected and share data seamlessly and quickly transfer operations, to a neighboring PSAP when disaster or an emergency renders it inoperable, inaccessible, or uninhabitable.
3. NG911 systems rely on geospatial (GIS) data to locate callers in an emergency, a far more accurate approach than what’s available with today’s legacy E911 system. As a result of more accurate 911 caller location, fewer calls will be misrouted, saving precious time when every second matters. Emergency response may also arrive more quickly due to more accurate location information.

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For more information about NG911 & how McKean County is preparing for the transition to NG911, please refer to the McKean County Department of Emergency Services web page and / or social media.

McKean County Department of Emergency Services webpage:

https://www.mckeancountypa.org/departments/911_center/index.php

McKean County Department of Emergency Services social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/McKean911>

McKean County - 911 Address Request Survey:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/895d466c29ce43e2b137d66e87cad6f4>

