

## **Fire Department Signage Update and Recommendations**

### **May 17, 2019**

Update since 1<sup>st</sup> report:

#### **Research**

- Reviewed building code
- Chose two roads (South Ridge and Old Farm); measured and took pictures of all house signs; reviewed with Chief Norton
- Learned:
  - None conformed to letter height requirements in code
    - Code requires 4 inches, 2.5 seems adequate
  - About a third met FD's desired standards for contrast, visibility, legibility
  - Most were deemed inadequate due to:
    - No signage at all (20%)
    - No/insufficient contrast between letters and background (sign or tree)
    - Placement on ground
    - Sign positioned facing one way only so illegible from other direction

#### **Conclusions**

- Building code requirements are appropriate with respect to visibility, contrast, types of letters and numbers. Characters should be not less than 2.5 inches high (as opposed to current 4 inches) and 0.5 inches wide (as is.) Visibility shall be defined as visible from a car windshield

#### **Recommendations**

1. Require all Chilmark residences to meet signage requirements by 1/1/2020
  - a. Building code as amended above
  - b. House number required, name preferred but optional
2. The Chilmark FD will place signage at all houses that do not comply; owners shall pay \$100 per sign, to go to the Chilmark Volunteer Fireman's Association (CVFA).
3. Ask the students at the Chilmark School to design house signs that meet the requirements; FD/Police/Tri-Town will choose 3; these will be the signs used as needed in #3 above.