



FIRE DEPARTMENT
Town of Durham
51 College Road
Durham, NH 03824-2898
Phone (603) 868-5531
www.ci.durham.nh.us

STREET NAME APPLICATION

Application for name of new street or change of name for existing street

Town of Durham, New Hampshire

Please complete this application if you seek to establish a name for a new street or if you seek to change the name of an existing street. In cases where the Town determines that the name of an existing street must be changed due to Emergency 911 requirements, the residents of the affected street may submit a request for a specific new name. Please include a separate petition or sheet including the names and addresses of residents/property owners along the affected street who support the proposed name(s).

Include your first three choices for a name, below. Do not include a request for the street suffix ("road," "avenue," "lane," etc.) as the Town will select the appropriate suffix based on the character and location of the street. Please review the guidelines on the other side of this form for selection of street names.

You can deliver the application to the Fire Department or email it to: fire@ci.durham.nh.us. The Durham Addressing Committee will review your application and make a recommendation to the Durham Town Council which will make the final determination. The Town reserves the right to select a different name from any proposed below.

Date: _____

Name of applicant/contact: _____

Address of applicant/contact: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email address: _____

• New street: _____
Location of the new street

• Renaming an existing street: _____
Name of existing street

First choice:
Second choice:
Third choice:

Please explain the reason for the change and the rationale for the selection of the proposed names:

(*See the General Guidelines for Selection of Street Names in Durham on the other side →)

General Guidelines for Selection of Street Names in Durham

Please consider these guidelines in your selection of proposed street names. The Durham Addressing Committee and Durham Town Council will use these guidelines in considering street names.

- Street names should be proposed/selected with great care. Street names can affect the delivery of services as well as the marketing of a new project or subdivision, the image of a neighborhood, and even property values. Street names should be simple and clear, and appealing and engaging, if possible.
- Street names should not be irregular, confusing, demeaning, difficult to spell, difficult to pronounce, highly personalized, random, strange, or otherwise inappropriate. Abbreviations, initials, punctuation, and special characters should not be used. When streets are named for a person, in general, only the last name should be used. Names that might cause confusion due to similarity with other street names or other locations in Durham will not be accepted. The Town will not approve a duplicate name with a different suffix (such as Abbey Lane coming off of Abbey Road). You can see a list of existing street names in Durham by clicking on this link: <http://gis.vgsi.com/durhamnh/Streets.aspx>
- It is preferable that street names reinforce a sense of place and that they have some relationship to the specific street/area, Durham, or the region. It is desirable that street names refer to a historical event, a historical person, an architectural or archaeological element, a natural or geographic feature, or trees, vegetation, or animals found in the area. It is desirable that street names have some relationship to neighboring street names, if possible. Applicants are encouraged to conduct research or consult with appropriate local organizations (such as the Durham Historical Association or Conservation Commission) to support their request. Streets should not be named for living persons. More leeway in street name selection may be appropriate for private streets that serve few residents or properties.
- In cases where an existing street name is historical or long established, appreciated by the community, or especially well-suited to a particular street the Town will try to avoid changing the name. In general, altering the names of streets is discouraged unless there is a compelling reason for the change.
- The Town also uses two other documents with more detailed guidelines: “Street Naming Policy and Guidelines” and “New Hampshire 911 Addressing Standards Guide.” You can view these documents at this link: https://www.ci.durham.nh.us/boc_planning/street-name-and-address-standards