

# Code of the West

## *As it applies to Lincoln County, Montana*

Lincoln County is a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. It is our intention to provide to you a guide and introduction to the aspects of country living. You may discover other issues that have not been covered. By all means, research and examine all aspects of rural living so you will enjoy Lincoln County and have few unpleasant surprises.

The men and women who first settled this part of the country during the westward expansion were bound by an unwritten code of conduct. The famous western author, Zane Gray, was the first to document this code in the early 20th century. The values of integrity and self-reliance are important features of the “Code of the West”. The code played an important part in their decision making, their actions and their cooperation with neighbors. In keeping with that spirit, this Rural Handbook is intended as a guide for those who wish to follow in the footsteps of the early settlers and reside in Lincoln County, Montana.

It is important to be aware that living in rural Montana is different than life in the city. Keep in mind you may have to drive 30 minutes to buy a gallon of milk or a dozen eggs, or you may find yourself driving into town 5 or 6 times a week to meet the commitment you have made to your child(ren) for sports and activities.

As you look for a place to make your home, look at the community and its people. County and small town governments are often unable to provide the same level of service that large city governments can provide. You should think about transportation, communication,

education, health care, employment and public services that are critical to our modern way of life. To that end, we are providing you with information to assist you in making an educated and informed decision before purchasing rural property or building a home.

Remember, your actions may have an adverse impact on your neighbors, human and otherwise. Respect your neighbor’s livelihood and property.



*Yaak Falls*