

**FAUQUIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES**

SUBJECT: Warning Notification Plan	P33: 5.5	NUMBER: 05.002
DATE ISSUED: 6-12-2008	AMENDS: All Previous	EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

1.0 Policy

Due to previous weather patterns and potential for severe life threatening damaging storms and for the purposes of homeland security, the Warrenton Volunteer Fire Company station siren will function as an early warning system. Other fire company sirens across the County will do the same once public education has been completed

2.0 Purpose

To alert the public of impending threats such as tornados and to seek shelter or immediate emergency information.

2.0.1 The siren will be activated for the following emergencies:

1. NOAA Alert of a Tornado Warning where Warrenton is in the path
2. Tornado Warnings where a credible witness has sighted a tornado or funnel cloud
3. Other imminent threat to the general population

2.0.2 Once the siren is activated, citizens should seek shelter and tune into WTOP, NOAA weather radio or scanner for emergency information.

2.0.3 The siren(s) will be tested at noon each Saturday. Public education sources for this program will initially consist of Cable Channel 2, WTOP (103.5 FM) radio, news print as well as county and town websites. Ongoing education will be based through the school system.

3.0 Procedure for Dispatching Warnings:

Once the decision has been made to sound the siren the Communications Division will sound the siren as follows:

1. Sound two pre-alert fire tones
2. Announce the emergency such as "Attention all stations and monitors, the National Weather Service has issued a Tornado Warning for Fauquier County to include Warrenton....."
3. Tone the town siren
4. Announce the emergency information again
5. Repeat this procedure based on existing conditions as needed

Citizens will be responsible for monitoring conditions to determine when the storm has passed.