



Contact: Sara Spaulding, PIO
303-324-1711
sspaulding@ci.wheatridge.co.us

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

City of Wheat Ridge Plans Test of Outdoor Emergency Alert Sirens on Wednesday, June 12, 2019

WHEAT RIDGE, Colo. June 7, 2019 – Wheat Ridge will conduct a test of the outdoor emergency alert sirens on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 11 a.m. Residents should not be alarmed. Sirens are primarily used to warn residents who are outdoors when dangerous weather or a flash flood is approaching. The system can also be used to alert residents and motorists of chemical spills and other emergency situations. Do not rely on outdoor sirens in case of emergencies; however. Local residents should sign up for CodeRed so alerts can be sent to home and/or cell phones.

All sirens in the system will be activated with a long wail, followed by a voice test message over the public address portion of the system. The test will conclude by noon. The annual test of the outdoor siren system is required to ensure that all siren sites in Wheat Ridge are functioning correctly.

If at the time of the siren test, weather conditions are such that a tornado watch or warning may be issued for the Wheat Ridge area, the siren test will be cancelled.

When residents hear the sirens, they should follow the guidelines below.

- Turn on the radio to 850 KOA AM (the designated Emergency Broadcast Station for the Denver area) or turn on the television and find a news station for information about what is happening.
- Do NOT telephone the police or fire departments. This ties up the phone lines, making them unavailable for emergency calls.
- If there is reason to believe the sirens are being activated for a tornado, take shelter immediately.
 - At home, take cover in the basement if one is available, or take shelter in a room in the center part of the house away from windows. Do NOT remain in a trailer or mobile home.
 - At work or school, go to the interior hallways on the lowest floor or to the designated shelter area away from windows. Continue to listen to the radio or television for developments on the emergency and for information on when it is safe to leave the shelter.

In addition to sirens CodeRED can provide alerts to cell phones and home phones. If residents no longer have a landline at home, getting registered to receive alerts on a cell phone is an important step. As a reminder, while landline phones are automatically included in CodeRED notifications, cell phones are not. Residents and business owners are encouraged to visit the CodeRED registration web site at your911.net to add additional contact information, including additional cell phone numbers, SMS (text) and email address preferences.

CodeRED registration is especially important for those addresses without a landline, as individuals ***must register*** if they want to receive emergency notifications.

For more information about emergency preparedness <http://bit.ly/WREmergencyPrep>

###