

PARKE COUNTY SEVERE WEATHER WARNING SIRENS



BE PREPARED_KNOW WHAT TO DO!

1. What should I do when I hear the sirens?

When the sirens are heard, go inside and tune to local media to get more information.

2. Why can't I hear the sirens in my house?

Sirens are an outdoor warning system designed only to alert those who are outside that something dangerous is approaching.

3. How can I get alerts when I'm at work or in my house?

For alerts indoors, every home and business should have a **NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards**. NOAA Weather Radio is like a smoke detector for severe weather, and it can wake you up when a warning is issued for your area so you can take appropriate action.

4. When are sirens tested?

Sirens are tested at 6:30 pm the first Wednesday of every month unless severe weather is imminent.

5. Why don't the outdoor warning sirens sound an all-clear signal?

People should be indoors and monitoring local media for updates on the storm.

6. Do the outdoor warning sirens sometimes sounded for hail and wind?

Yes! When thunderstorm winds exceed 70 mph, trees can be uprooted or snapped. Hail that is (1 3/4 in.) golf ball sized or larger can break windows. Both of these things pose a direct risk to life if people are caught outdoors

7. Will the sirens warn me of every dangerous storm?

The safest approach is to be proactive and use all of the information available to protect yourself and your family from threatening weather. Nothing can replace common sense. If a storm is approaching, the lightning alone is a threat. Sirens are only one part of a warning system that includes preparation, NOAA Weather Radio, and local media.

8. Who activates the sirens?

Sirens are activated by Parke County 9-1-1 or local emergency management personnel.

9. Does the National Weather Service have nation-wide recommended guidelines for sounding outdoor warning sirens?

Nationally, no. However, the NWS has developed recommended siren guidelines when working with various local communities. These guidelines have been adopted by Parke County Board of Commissioners.

Plan - Practice - Monitor - Act!

Plan: Know the threats - make a plan!

Practice: Make sure everyone knows the plan.

- Practice the plan.

Monitor: Who is the designated weather watcher?

- What's the outlook?
- Watch: threat within a few hours
- Warning: imminent threat to life

Act: Be proactive!

- Make sure the right people on site have the authority to implement the plan
- Establish criteria
- Where will people go?
- Make sure you have enough time to get there.
- How will you communicate an "all-clear"?

10. How can I get more information?

Contact:

Parke County Emergency Management
765-569-3646

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.