

# DURANT / BRYAN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN TEST ACTIVATION POLICY

With regards to the monthly test, the sirens will activate on the first Thursday of the month on or near 2:00 pm and run for three (3) minutes. Due to the decibel volume of the sirens, we recommend that you not be near the siren until the test is complete. We chose the first Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm so that schools, nursing home, and businesses can practice their tornado safety drills without it affecting their institutions during the lunch hour. We also recommend that you as individuals use this opportunity to exercise your personal tornado emergency action plan. We hope that we are never faced with a real tornado, but the more we practice, the better we respond should a real event occur.

These monthly outdoor warning siren tests will occur on the scheduled dates only during ideal weather conditions. There are five (5) reasons the monthly outdoor warning siren test is canceled:

1. The sky is cloudy.
2. A severe weather watch has been issued by the NWS and is currently in effect for our area.
3. An ongoing major emergency exist in our area and the test would cause widespread public alarm.
4. Test date is a holiday or a significant event is occurring throughout the area.
5. The Emergency Management Director or his designee deems it to be inappropriate.

Should the regular monthly test be canceled, it will automatically be rescheduled for 2:00 pm the next Thursday, or consecutive Thursday(s) until that months test can be completed. We will not test on any day except Thursday. Should we be doing maintenance on any day, we will notify you through the media and social media if the siren has to be activated for maintenance.

**REMEMBER THESE ARE OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS, MADE TO BE HEARD WHEN YOU ARE OUTSIDE IN THE OPEN AIR, AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE WARNING INSIDE A BUILDING. YOU MAY NOT HEAR THE SIRENS INSIDE YOUR BUILDING UNLESS YOU ARE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO A PARTICULAR SIREN DURING ACTIVATION. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU HAVE MULTIPLE ALTERNATE MEANS OF RECEIVING YOUR WARNINGS INDOORS.**