

Listen For the Sirens

We've all heard the penetrating sound of the City's early warning sirens. But when do they sound, and why? Signals may vary, but there's only one meaning: When the siren sounds, take shelter!

The City tests its sirens every Wednesday at noon for one minute. The National Weather Service has determined two weather conditions for siren use. A **steady tone**, lasting 3 minutes, means a tornado watch or a severe thunderstorm watch. A **wailing tone** (6 sec. Hi/6 Low) lasting 3 minutes, means a tornado warning or severe thunderstorm warning. The City of Carlsbad also has a third tone, another wailing tone (16 sec. High/8 sec. Low) lasting 4 cycles, which signifies a hazardous event, such as a hazardous materials incident.

The City of Carlsbad's system utilizes "Outdoor" warning sirens. They are, as the name implies, primarily for warning citizens when **outdoors**.

When you hear the sirens, seek shelter indoors immediately and tune into NOAA weather radio, local radio or television channels for further information. Those inside may not hear the sirens and should depend more on NOAA weather radio, local radio and television for their severe weather warning. To listen to these sounds, visit the Carlsbad Fire Department web page at www.cityofcarsbadnm.com.

KNOW THE DANGER SIGNS

When a **WATCH** is issued, go about your business but check on changing weather conditions about every 15-30 minutes. When a **WARNING** is issued for your area, go to your "Safe Space" immediately! Stay away from outside walls, windows and doors. Cover your head and neck with your hands.

Develop an emergency communications plan in case family members are separated from one another when a tornado warning goes into effect. Designate an adult (even a friend or relative who lives out of the area) to serve as the family coordinator. Instruct everyone in the family to contact this coordinator in a weather emergency for instructions on what to do during the storm and where to reassemble after the emergency has passed. Your safety plan may be dependent upon your location.

For more information concerning emergency preparedness, please visit:
<https://www.ready.gov/are-you-ready-guide>



Carlsbad

**Early
Warning
Sirens**



Updated: 2017

Your Emergency Notification System



Eddy County's Mass Emergency Notification system is used by local law enforcement agencies and first responders to notify residents and businesses of immediate emergencies. An automated calling system can instantly give hundreds of Carlsbad and Eddy County residents the message to leave home, such as when there is a flood or tornado in the area, or to stay inside, such as when there is an escaped prisoner.

If you are in the phone book, you are already in the emergency notification system, but many people no longer use landlines and rely on their cell phones for everything. Other land lines may be unpublished due to renting or a recent move. Local first responders are asking for the public's help in registering these phones through an online application form.

The system is based on location, so a concerned parent can register several times to list his or her home address, place of employment and the address of a child care provider as places to watch.

To register: visit
<https://www.smart911.com/smart911/registration/registrationLanding.action>

For more information, call
628-5450

Texting notification options are also available. The phone system does not replace door to door visits during an emergency, but it will greatly speed the information process up.

Registration is optional, but the information could provide people who don't use landlines with an essential early warning. Register your cell phone number today!

For additional info:
<http://www.cityofcarlsbadnm.com/emergencyprep.cfm>

Visit Carlsbad on Facebook and Twitter
<https://www.facebook.com/CityofCarlsbadGov/>

<https://twitter.com/CarlsbadFireNM>

Know the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning:

Tornado Watch: Issued by the National Weather Service when tornadoes are possible in your area. You should remain alert for developing storms that approach. Remind family members of where the safe areas are within your home, and carefully monitor radio, television, and internet reports for further developments.

Tornado Warning: Indicates that a tornado has been sighted in your area, or is indicated on weather radio. **You should proceed to safe shelter immediately.**



STORM SURVIVAL TIP

You should designate a "Safe Space" in your home long before storms threaten. Include at least these items in your shelter:

- Flashlight
- First Aid Kit
- Batteries
- Gloves
- Battery Operated Radio
- Sleeping bags/blankets
- Whistle
- Drinking Water
- Emergency Phone Numbers
- Nonperishable food