



EMERGENCY WARNING NOTIFICATIONS

Local Early Warning System Sirens

The Big Bear Valley Early Warning System (EWS) sirens extend through a large portion of the Big Bear Valley. They will be utilized for any emergency where protective actions are necessary by the general public such as an evacuation due to a fire, earthquake, etc. When activated, the sirens will produce a steady wail for 1.5 to 3 minutes. The siren system is an indication that the Emergency Warning System has been activated and emergency information will be provided on local radio, social media and other media outlets. The EWS sirens are tested monthly. No action is required on the part of the public during these tests.

Social Media

In addition to the traditional forms of public notification, social media is an additional method that will be utilized to share information regarding the emergency. Although public safety officials will continue to utilize traditional alert and notification systems, we encourage the public to connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to stay abreast of emergencies throughout the County.

Route Alerting

Route Alerting is a form of alert and notification that is used frequently in small scale emergencies or during rapidly changing situations in a designated area. In route alerting, public safety officials drive or walk through an affected or potentially affected area alerting residents in that area of the emergency and actions they need to take. Route Alerting can be conducted door to door or via a public address system found on fire and law enforcement vehicles and apparatus. Route Alerting is traditionally utilized only in areas that are ordered to take action.

Telephone Emergency Notification System (Reverse 9-1-1)

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's and Fire Departments have the capability to inform the public of an emergency by utilizing a Telephone Emergency Notification System, known as TENS. This system allows emergency officials the ability to notify residents and businesses in a designated area of an emergency and actions they may need to take. This system utilizes a database of listed and unlisted landline phone numbers that is updated by the County every six months. Registration of landline telephone numbers is automatic and there is no need to self-register if you wish to receive alerts by a landline telephone number only. If you have a voice over Internet phone number (VOIP) or cellular telephone that you would like to be notified on, you must self-register those telephone numbers with San Bernardino County at www.sbcounty.gov/SBCFire/TENS/TENSContact.aspx. If you do not have an Internet connection, you can sign up your VOIP or cellular telephone number by calling 2-1-1 or (888) 435-7565. You must provide a valid San Bernardino County address when you register. This is the address for which you will receive alerts. Once registered, you can unsubscribe your VOIP or cellular telephone number at any time.



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Wireless Emergency Alerts

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) are emergency alert messages like text messages that are sent to WEA-enabled cell phones in the vicinity of an emergency that requires the public to take action. The alerts include a unique sound and vibration but are limited to 90 characters. WEA messages are sent by authorized public safety officials for local emergencies but can also be used by the President in times of national crisis.

Registration is not required to receive WEA, but those interested in receiving alerts should verify their cell phone settings are set to receive messages.

Emergency Alert System

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a national public warning system that requires radio and TV stations to broadcast emergency information provided by local, state and federal officials. During an emergency, local officials could activate the EAS to provide emergency information and actions necessary to the general public over local radio and TV stations. Local radio and TV stations are an effective way to stay tuned to emergency information. It is essential to have battery-powered devices, such as a battery-operated radio to stay tuned during power outages.

NOAA Weather Radio

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) (<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It also broadcasts alerts of non-weather emergencies such as national security, natural, environmental, and public safety through the Emergency Alert System.