

GREENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SEVERE WEATHER/ OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN OPERATION

I. Purpose

The Intent of this policy is to provide as well as practical, warning time in the event of a tornado, or any other Natural or Man-Made Disaster to the people of Greentown, Indiana.

II. Policy

This policy outlines the duties and procedures to be followed by Greentown Police Officers for the Severe Weather/ Outdoor Warning Siren System. Officers shall follow all guidelines included in the policy to the best of their ability.

III. Procedure

A. Awareness of possible severe weather:

1. It shall be the responsibility of the on duty or on call Officer to keep abreast of possible, or occurring severe weather.
2. If an on call Officer for whatever reason cannot monitor situations of possible or occurring severe weather, and may not be in a position to take appropriate action, the Officer shall make arrangements with another Greentown Officer to monitor and cover the obligations.
3. If no other Officer is available, the on call Officer shall maintain the obligations of this policy.
4. To assure a rapid response during the time of impending severe weather the On Duty/On Call Officer shall monitor weather situations, and activate the Town's Severe Weather/ Outdoor Warning System as set forth in this policy. The On Duty/ On Call Officer shall stay within with in a 3-mile radius of Greentown.

B. Testing of the Town Severe Weather/ Outdoor Warning Siren System.

1. The Severe Weather/ Outdoor Warning System shall be tested every Friday at 1:00 P.M. during the months of March thru September. During the Months of October thru February, the system shall be tested on the first Friday of each Month. An additional test shall also be conducted in conjunction with the State of Indiana yearly Statewide National Weather Service Test.
2. The actual test of the system shall be cycled for at least 1 minute.
3. In the event of severe weather or other possible known threat, the scheduled test shall be suspended until the following regular scheduled test time.

C. Training:

1. The Marshal will ensure that each Officer has adequate training in each of the following areas:
 - a. Operation of the Severe Weather, Outdoor Warning Siren System, including the activation process.
 - b. Severe Weather Spotters Training.
 - c. Normal Procedure of the National Weather Service regarding weather watches and warnings.

D. Severe Weather/ Outdoor Warning Siren System Activation:

1. Only the following criteria will be substantial justification to activate the Tornado Warning System.
 - a. A Tornado Warning issued by the National Weather Service that includes Howard County.
 - b. A Tornado Warning issued by the Howard County Emergency Management Agency.
 - c. The Officers personal observation of a funnel cloud or tornado.
 - d. A Law Enforcement radio transmission of a Tornado Warning in our area.
 - e. A radio transmission from a trained Amateur Radio Spotter confirming a Tornado Warning in our area.

- f. Any threat situation defined by the Federal Government, Department of Homeland Security, which would have a direct imminent threat to the Town of Greentown.
 - g. Any other Natural or Man-Made Disaster deemed necessary to activate the Severe Weather/ Outdoor Warning Siren System, The Town Marshal of the Greentown Police Department, or the senior officer on duty may authorize activation. If the Marshal is not available, the Chief Executive Member of the Greentown Town Council may authorize activation.
2. Once the Tornado Warning System has been activated for a warning, it will operate automatically for three minutes:
- a. The Warning System shall be activated and reactivation shall continue during the entire time of the warning.
 - b. Stopping the Warning System shall only be done, when the agency that issues the Warning, cancels or suspends the Warning. Note: The stopping of the Warning System does **NOT** necessarily mean that an ALL CLEAR has been issued.
3. There shall **NOT** be an ALL CLEAR activation of the System.

Jeffrey A. Bennett, Marshal

Jim Harris, Council President

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