

Notification to the public

Outdoor warning sirens are activated to promote situational awareness for citizens of a dangerous or potentially dangerous weather situation within Waseca County.

*****Please note: Sirens will only be activated in the National Weather Service warning polygon area, not for the whole county.**

Upon hearing outdoor warning sirens it is important that all persons immediately refer to local broadcast media (radio, TV, weather radio, etc.) for additional information.

As recommended by the National Weather Service and in agreement with Waseca County, the activation of warning sirens is based on the following weather related criteria:

Severe Weather

Tornadoes

- **Tornado Warning** issued by the National Weather Service in Waseca County and the cities within the National Weather Service warning polygon box that are in the predicted path of the storm. AND/OR Tornado or funnel cloud reported by local Law Enforcement, Emergency Responders, or Emergency Management personnel based upon reports received by trained severe weather spotters.

Severe Thunderstorms

- Severe Thunderstorm Warning issued by the National Weather Service that clearly reports sustained wind speed estimates of at least **70 mph** for Waseca County and the cities within the National Weather Service warning polygon box that are in the predicted path of the storm.

Siren Duration

Sirens will be activated for a full cycle; roughly 3 minutes. Sirens may be activated for an additional cycle if new warnings are declared for the area.

All Clear

There is no such thing as an "all-clear" siren, so a second or third activation means that the threat is still imminent and finding or staying in a safe shelter area is strongly encouraged.