

NEWS RELEASE: Nov. 7, 2011

National Emergency Alert System test Wednesday, 1 p.m.

The Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management reminds residents that a national test of the Emergency Alert System takes place Wednesday, Nov. 9, at 1 p.m.

The Emergency Alert System is used to broadcast public warnings on radio and television during dangerous weather conditions and community-wide emergencies. Although the system is frequently tested and utilized by state and local officials, Wednesday's test will be the first national activation.

During Wednesday's test, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will activate the Emergency Alert System on all United States broadcast channels, including radio, television, cable, satellite radio and satellite TV. The alert message will indicate that this is a test, not a real emergency. The test will last 45-60 seconds.

"We just want everyone to be aware that this test is going on, and it's just a test," said Ryan Nicholls, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management. "There is no reason to panic, and please don't call 9-1-1."

For more information about the test, visit www.fema.gov, or call Ryan Nicholls, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, at 417-869-6040, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-224-5510.

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