

NEWS RELEASE: May 13, 2010

**Residents advised to purchase weather alert radios**

Following this morning's storm outbreak, the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management advises resident to purchase weather alert radios, to insure they remain aware of approaching severe weather or other emergencies.

Weather alert radios, properly programmed, will sound an alarm when a storm watch or warning is issued for your area. Ryan Nicholls, Director of Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, said weather alert radios are more reliable than storm sirens for alerting residents indoors, especially when people are sleeping or when there are other noises in the home or building.

"The storm siren system is designed to serve as an outdoor warning system," said Nicholls. "It is not designed to be heard indoors, and you may not be able to hear it indoors."

Weather alert radios are available at many discount stores and electronics retailers.

Nicholls said storm sirens are now activated in zones, according to the threat areas established by the National Weather Service.

"In the past, a Tornado Warning for Greene County meant every siren in the county was activated," said Nicholls. "We are now able to sound sirens in specific areas. This morning, no sirens were activated in northwest Greene County, because the threat area was to the south."

For more information, call Ryan Nicholls, Director of Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, at 417-869-6040, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-379-5713.

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