

The "What If "Times

No.16

General Natural Disaster ???

El Nino - Flooding - Snow - Wind and what have you



Disaster Duck says: *There is still a lot of talk about my friend "El Nino" in the west and south west. General disaster preparedness should always be on your mind, especially in Northern Nevada.*

HOW WILL I KNOW IF THERE IS A LOCAL EMERGENCY ?

Storey County is an official "Storm Ready Community". This is a designation issued by the National Weather Service. It means that we have at least 3 to 5 methods of alerting our county residents of an impending or actual disaster of some sort.

So what are these ways, you ask?

- 1. REVERSE 911 (Code Red)** phone calling notification of emergencies in the county. This is an automated phone call with a live person voice notifying you of whatever the emergency is. This system is to alert all who have land line phones in the county and all who **HAVE REGISTERED THEIR CELL PHONES with the 911 system**. This can be done by going to **the COUNTY WEB PAGE at StoreyCounty.org** and navigating to the registration point. Here you can register your cell phone or all the cell phones in your household, mom, dad, kids, ...and the dog if you have him trained that well. *Don't worry about the cat, they won't answer the phone anyway as they are on their own planet.*
- 2. 847-INFO** - This is a call in line that you can call and get a short message about emergencies that you may have become aware of in your area or the county as a whole.
- 3. StoreyCounty.org** - **The county web page** will have updated information about any emergencies or other important info that is of interest to the residents. We will use this a lot with breaking news of all sorts of events in the county.
- 4. [Storey County Facebook page](#)**: **There are all sorts of notices and messages that go on this page.** Recent events in the county, emergencies, exciting news, road closures, activities,

and all sorts of other cool stuff. The county is really into social media stuff and also does some stuff on Twitter.

5. STOREY COUNTY SHERIFF'S vehicles may come into your neighborhood and **announce emergency notices using the PA systems** in their cars in the event of a major emergency.

6. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE: NOAA Weather Radio is a nationwide network of radio stations (one on Mt. Rose) broadcasting continuous weather information from the local weather office (Reno). You can purchase (even at Walmart) a weather alert radio that can be set to turn on automatically when there is an alert by the weather service.

7. EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM:

- The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a national public warning system that requires broadcasters, satellite digital audio service and direct broadcast satellite providers, cable television systems, and wireless cable systems to provide the President with a communications capability to address the American people within 10 minutes during a national emergency.
- EAS may also be used by state and local authorities, in cooperation with the broadcast community, to deliver important emergency information, such as weather information, imminent threats, AMBER alerts, and local incident information targeted to specific areas.

8. WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERTS (WEA):

- WEAs look like text messages, but are designed to get your attention and alert you with a unique sound and vibration, both repeated twice
- WEAs are no more than 90 characters, and will include the type and time of the alert, any action you should take, as well as the agency issuing the alert
- Mobile users are not charged for receiving WEAs and **there is no need to subscribe**
- **To ensure your device is WEA-capable, check with your service provider**

Soooo...there you have it: A listing of the ways the county can make contact with you and alert you of emergencies in the county.

TAKE NOTE OF #8 ABOVE SO YOU ARE NOT STARTLED WHEN YOU GET ONE !

BE SURE TO FOLLOW ANY DIRECTIONS CALLED TO YOU ON THE REVERSE 911 COUNTY ALERT SYSTEM. Thank you

Have a great preparation day, and remember.....don't rely on a cat to be any help to you in an emergency. Also, the last way you will learn if there is a flooding emergency is if there is water up to your knees and you are wondering where it came from !