

# Henry County Siren Report 2016

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### **Purpose**

This document is intended to provide general information on the Counties outdoor warning siren system.

#### Sirens

Sirens are a valuable notification tool; in the past communities used them to notify their firefighters that they were needed. But with firefighters living farther outside of the range of the community's siren and with today's technologies most fire departments use other options, such as a radio or pager.

In the past 20 to 30 year's they're more commonly used to alert the public to local weather conditions, including thunderstorms and tornados. This is how they came to be known as "Tornado Sirens".

In today's world with the increased possibility of a hazardous chemical emergency or a terrorist attack, the need to notify portions of the population in as short a time as possible has caused us to look to change our notification procedures. A train wreck, traffic accident or a chemical spill at a factory will require that the public is notified as soon as possible? Notification options also include systems such as reverse 911, web based or other similar system. Sirens are intended for outdoor warning of the public but depending on your proximity to a siren you may hear it indoors.

The Henry County Emergency Management Agency in cooperation local communities has re-task our local sirens to be used for more than weather alerts. From now on, sirens will be used to alert you to all kinds of emergencies, from severe weather to hazardous materials releases.

So what has been known in the past as a TORNADO Siren will now be an EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION Siren.

#### Who owns them?

Each siren is owned by either the township trustee, fire department, community, etc. where it's located. The care and maintenance is the responsibility of its owner. Sirens range from units purchased within the past couple of years to ones that are more than thirty years old. And as you can imagine, the older ones need a lot of TLC. Sirens that fail the regularly scheduled test (Friday at noon) should be reported to the owner so that they can be repaired as soon as possible.

## When you hear a siren

Your job is to seek more information when you hear a siren. When you hear a siren please; "Do not Dial 911" and ask the dispatcher why are the sirens sounding.

The time they spend with you may be taking them away from a real emergency.

When you hear a siren local agencies may need you to;

• Seek shelter from severe weather,

- Evacuate an area, or
- "Protect In Place" due to a chemical emergency

## What should you do when you hear a siren?

- 1. If severe weather activity is occurring in your area or you are awakened by a siren, seek shelter and activate your personal safety protocols. Such as; get your disaster supply kit and go to the basement if available, or an interior room or hallway. If you are in a mobile home and time permits go to a pre-designated safe area. Then as soon as possible monitor local radio stations on **AM 1550 or FM 102.5** and/or local television stations for further information. Additional weather information may be obtained by monitoring a national weather service radio. If you purchase a NOAA radio, make sure is compatible with SA.M.E. technology, go to <a href="http://www.weather.gov/nwr/nwrsame.htm">http://www.weather.gov/nwr/nwrsame.htm</a> for additional information.
- 2. If you hear a siren and you do not believe that there is severe weather activity occurring in your area, get your disaster supply kit and monitor local radio stations on AM 1550 or FM 102.5 and/or local television stations for further information

### **Zoned Activation**

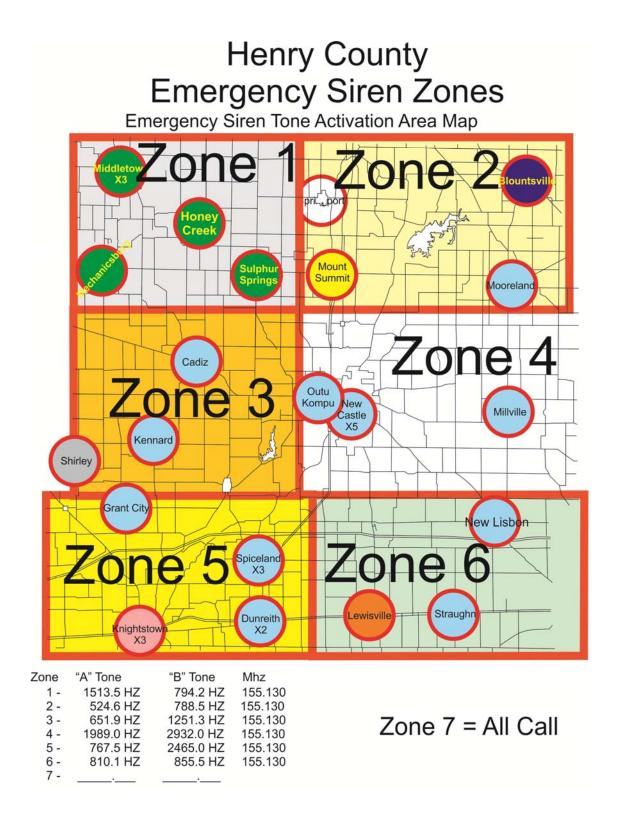
In the past almost all the sirens in the County operated simultaneously with the exception of Knightstown, Middletown and any manually activated units. This caused much confusion when the sirens were activated due to a storm in the far southeastern corner of the county and the sun is shining in other areas.

In an effort to fix this problem we are reassigning current and future sirens into notification zones. This will allow emergency services dispatches to only notify those persons directly affected by the incoming weather or localized emergency.

#### Zones

The map below indicates the new zone areas and the colors indicate sirens that were activated together in the past (all light blue with the same tone). Future siren additions will be programmed to activate just with the tone for the appropriate zone and existing ones will be reprogramed to match.

## Appendix A – Zone Map



# Appendix B - Individual Sirens

Blountsville

(Update Photo)





Dunreith Siren #2



Grant City Nazarene Church





Harrison Township Vol. Fire Dept

Honey Creek, Fall Creek Twp.

NO LONGER OPERATIONAL



Kennard Vol. Fire Department Located on 200 So. East of Kennard Rd.





Knightstown Siren #1, Town of Located - Behind City Building

Knightstown Siren #2, Town of Located - Morgan Street

Knightstown Siren #3, Town of Located – West of park on CR 775 West

(Update Photo)





Lewisville Vol. Fire Department



Liberty Township

No longer operational



Mechanicsburg, Fall Creek Twp. Trustee

Middletown Siren #1, Town of

(Update Photo)

Middletown Siren #2

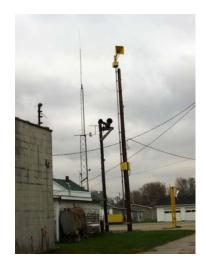
(Update Photo)

Middletown Siren #2, Town of

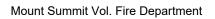
(Update Photo)



Millville Vol. Fire Department



Mooreland Vol. Fire Department



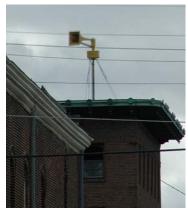


New Castle Siren #1, City of White Estates





New Castle Siren #2, City of North Main



New Castle Siren #3, City of 1201 Church Street



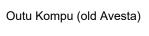
New Castle Siren #4, City of South Memorial

New Castle Siren #5, City of, N. Main

(Update Photo)



New Lisbon Vol. Fire Department





Shirley City of, Volunteer Fire Dept.



Spiceland, City of, Volunteer Fire Dept

Spiceland, City of, Volunteer Fire Dept.

(Update Photo)

(Update Photo)



Spiceland, Draper Inc.





Straughn Vol. Fire Department



Sulphur Springs – Installation -

# **Appendix C – Siren Datasheet Report**