

## Severe Weather Awareness Levels

1. **Listen** to Net Control.
2. There are 4 stages of weather alerts in Marion County: **STAND-BY**, **GREEN**, **YELLOW** and **RED**. **STAND-BY** means Net Control is asking for Check-Ins in preparation for the unknown and the Repeater is still available for general use. **GREEN** means the Net officially becomes a FORMAL Net which means all personell do as directed by the Net Control Operator. During a GREEN Net, nothing severe has been reported and the NCS is looking for information. **YELLOW** means a severe situation is imminent. NCS is looking for reports of 1/2 inch sized hail or larger -- 50 MPH or greater winds, and damage reports. **RED** means something severe has been reported and ONLY reports from that area are requested.
3. Study and know the YELLOW and RED alerts. They do not mean to report partly cloudy skies or the fact that it has stopped raining at your house. If you do not have something serious to report, do not feel obligated to report anything. Leave the repeater free for valid reports.
4. There may be a time where the county has 2 hazardous situations going on in two different parts of the town at the same time and the NCS will deal with it. This is why we have to pay attention to what is requested and not tie up the repeater with non-essential conversation.

## Severe Weather Sirens

There are approximately 144 Emergency Warning Sirens in Marion County. These sirens are distributed in each of the 9 townships.

These sirens are tested automatically each Friday at 11:00 am local time. On days that threatening weather is approaching, the siren test will not take place. The siren test is not performed when the Fourth of July falls on a Friday, due to parades and memorial services taking place.

### Who activates the sirens?

- 1) By the 911 Call Center
- 2) Airport Dispatch
- 3) or by the Emergency Management Office.

### When are they sounded?

- 1) Whenever there is a TORNADO WARNING that affects any part of Marion County.
- 2) When Public Safety personnel such as police or firefighters report a funnel cloud.
- 3) Whenever there is a TORNADO WATCH combined with a SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING.

Michael R. Palmer, N9FEB  
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