

## **Iowa Park Outdoor Warning System Activation Criteria**

**Emergency Warning Sirens will be activated within the City of Iowa Park under the following conditions:**

- A Tornado Warning is issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) for all, or part of the City of Iowa Park.
- A tornado or funnel cloud is observed by designated storm spotters forming in, or approaching, the city limits.
- A Severe Thunderstorm Warning is issued by the NWS that includes a “Destructive” wind tag of 80 miles per hour or higher.
- An emergency warning is ordered by the Police Chief, Fire Chief, City Manager, or Emergency Management Director (Mayor) of the City.

When an emergency warning is issued, all available sirens will be activated, even if only a portion of the City is affected.

There will be NO all-clear siren to avoid confusion.

### **Monthly Testing of Outdoor Warning System**

Monthly testing by the city of all emergency warning sirens is scheduled on the fourth Friday of every month at 11:00 am, with the following exceptions:

- Testing is cancelled on City holidays.
- Testing is cancelled if rain or potentially severe weather has been forecasted.
- Testing is cancelled during NWS storm watches or warnings.
- Testing is cancelled on days with dark or heavy clouds.

The outdoor warning sirens are intended to alert people outdoors who may not be able to receive other forms of warning. The emergency warning sirens are not designed and should not be solely relied on to adequately warn people indoors or to replace other alert systems. Citizens are strongly encouraged to have multiple ways to stay informed during threatening weather.

The following emergency warning notifications should be considered:

- NOAA Weather Radio
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (Cell Phones)
- Television and radio broadcasts
- CodeRED

CodeRED is a free system of emergency notifications. Anyone can sign up to receive timely alerts and instructions. CodeRED alerts are automatically generated when the National Weather Service issues a warning for a selected location. This is a recommended method of notification during an emergency.