



# Siren Watch

## Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security



# A Message from FCEM&HS Director Michael R. Pannell

Thank you for volunteering for Siren Watch. Donating at least fifteen minutes of your time each week will allow us to detect potential system errors as early as possible and help ensure that your neighborhood will receive adequate warning in emergencies.

# Agency Mission



As a Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) volunteer, your work supports our mission:

*Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security coordinates and prepares for county-wide all-hazards disaster planning, community education, warning, training, grant funding, response, and recovery efforts in order to prepare and protect the citizens of Franklin County before, during, and after natural and man-made disasters.*



# Siren Watch Volunteer Responsibilities

- Be in place every Wednesday at noon to observe and listen for your assigned siren.
- Report siren test results online or by phone within 24 hours of testing.
  - Have your Siren Watcher ID number available, which you will receive upon becoming a Siren Watch volunteer, along with the Siren Watch Report web address
- You may be asked to answer follow-up questions about your report.



# Outdoor Warning Siren System

- The Outdoor Warning System consists of 181 sirens in Franklin County.
- Outdoor sirens warn those outside to seek shelter and tune into local TV and radio stations or weather radios for more information.
- Sirens are one part of the Franklin County warning system.
- Visit our website to learn more about our warning systems: [www.franklincountyohio.gov/emahs](http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/emahs).



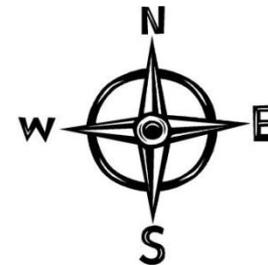
## Siren Tests

- Outdoor Warning Sirens are tested every Wednesday at noon, weather permitting.
- When severe weather conditions exist, siren testing is postponed until the following Wednesday.
- Testing consists of sirens sounding for 20 seconds, resting for 40 seconds, and finally sounding again for 20 seconds.
- [Click here](#) to hear a siren tone. The tone emitted by the siren is steady, but the volume rises and falls as sirens rotate 360°.



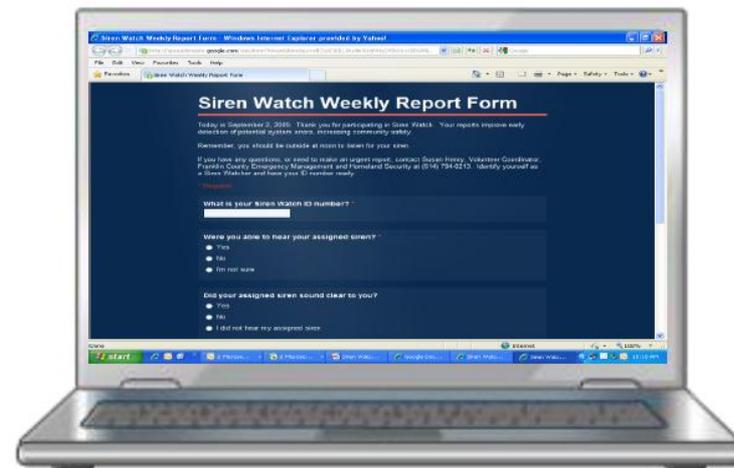
# Siren-Voice Capability Tests

- Sirens are equipped with the ability to transmit voice messages.
- Voice capability testing is incorporated into the first Wednesday test of every month, weather permitting.
- Voice capability will be tested 4 times in 4 directions.



# Siren Functionality Reporting

- Navigate to and complete the Siren Watch Report online form.





## Importance of Rapid Siren Test Reporting

Because the Outdoor Siren Warning network is an essential notification system for Franklin County, any potential system errors must be reported quickly so a maintenance team can be dispatched.

Malfunctioning warning sirens could potentially hinder adequate warning of citizens in an emergency.



## Questions, contact:

- Chris Williams, CERT Coordinator  
[chriswilliams@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:chriswilliams@franklincountyohio.gov)  
(614) 794-0213
- Angelo Nocera, Siren Watch Team Leader  
[Ema-volunteer@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:Ema-volunteer@franklincountyohio.gov)  
(614) 794-0213 (Wednesdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m.)

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