



Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

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CodeRED Testing During Statewide Tornado Drill

For Immediate Release

TRAVERSE CITY, MI - This is the time of year when severe weather, including tornados, is possible in the state of Michigan. To ensure our county residents are as prepared as possible for severe weather, Grand Traverse County's Emergency Notification System - CodeRED, will be tested on Wednesday, April 19th, in conjunction with the statewide tornado drill at 1:00pm EST. The tornado drill is a voluntary statewide drill in recognition of Michigan's Severe Weather Awareness Week from April 16-22, as declared by Governor Snyder.

The CodeRED mass notification system hopes to reach a wide range of citizens and area visitors, as well as deliver specific information regarding weather warnings. During Wednesday's test, the CodeRED Caller ID will read 800-419-5000 and the message will say *"In conjunction with the Michigan statewide tornado drill, this is a test of your community's CodeRED Emergency Notification System. No action is required, this is only a test. Had this been an actual emergency you would have received important information from your local officials. Again, this is only a test."*

The test will assess the efficiency of the CodeRED system and the speed at which notifications are delivered should the system be needed during an actual emergency.

Gregg Bird, Grand Traverse County Emergency Management Coordinator, encourages citizens to visit the county website, www.grandtraverse.org/CodeRED, to ensure their contact information is up to date in the emergency database. "If your phone number is not in the database, you will not receive a call when we do deliver important emergency notifications," said Bird.

Questions regarding this system test should be directed to Grand Traverse County's Emergency Management Office at 231-995-6059 or by emailing: codedred@grandtraverse.org

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