



## Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

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### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Outdoor Warning Siren Use Limited during Tornado Drill**

*Weather Radios, Participating TV and Radio Stations Broadcasting Alerts, CodeRED*

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY - Gov. Rick Snyder has proclaimed Michigan's Severe Weather Awareness Week from April 10-16. A statewide tornado drill is a part of this seasonal effort to encourage Michigan residents to take action, prepare, and practice emergency plans. The GTC Emergency Management Division wants to inform residents of these alerts and that outdoor warning siren use will be limited during the 2016 Statewide Tornado Drill at 1:30 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, April 13.

In Grand Traverse County (GTC), there are very few outdoor warning sirens. Instead, GTC utilizes the CodeRED mass notification system to reach a wider range of citizens and visitors, as well as deliver specific information about weather warnings. "Outdoor warning sirens are designed to alert residents about danger when outside, have a limited radius, and don't include details about any type of emergency." said Gregg Bird, Emergency Management Coordinator. "To be better prepared for all emergencies and disasters in GTC, look to your NOAA Weather Radio and local CodeRED alerts to stay better informed."

Grand Traverse County residents participating in the statewide tornado drill will hear alerts on NOAA Weather Radios and view alerts on participating TV and radio stations. During this awareness effort and during an actual emergency, community notifications will primarily utilize the CodeRED mass notification system. Additionally, WTCM 103.5/93.5 FM and 580 AM are the designated Emergency Alert System representatives for North West Michigan including all of Grand Traverse County and the City of Traverse City

Additional information on emergency notifications and severe weather can be found at:

<http://www.grandtraverse.org/CodeRED>

Facebook.com/GTCemergency

Twitter: @GTC\_EMA

<http://www.grandtraverse.org/EM>

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