



# KENTON COUNTY EOP SUPPORT PLAN

## OUTDOOR WARNING SYSTEM PLAN

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# Outdoor Warning System Plan

## Purpose

The purpose of the Outdoor Warning Siren System is to alert persons involved in outdoor activities that an emergency situation exists. This plan defines how and when the system is used and tested in Kenton County.

Persons hearing the outdoor warning sirens should ***“Take Cover, Tune In, Take Action”*** (seek shelter; obtain additional information from NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio or television; take appropriate action for their safety).

## System Components

There are thirty-six (36) sirens in the Kenton County Outdoor Warning Siren system (see Appendix A for list of sites). The primary activation site is located at the Kenton County Emergency Communications Center (KCECC). The system can also be activated from the Kenton County EOC primary location at 1840 Simon Kenton Way in Covington, as well as remotely from KCHSEM mobile devices.

## System Monitoring

The siren control system will automatically communicate if a problem exists with the siren sites to the control point at KCECC. KCECC will also poll all sirens two (2) times per twenty-four (24) hours. It is crucial that KCECC staff monitor and report any alarms on the system immediately to the Kenton County Homeland Security Emergency Management (KCHSEM) staff.

Anytime a siren site alarms or displays an error it should be polled individually in an attempt to reset the site. If the site will not reset after being polled individually, KCHSEM should be notified.

## System Tests

The Outdoor Warning Siren System will be activated for a complete system test on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:00 hours year round.

Should there be inclement weather or other potential problem on a test date, KCECC should contact KCHSEM for a decision on whether to delay the test.

KCHSEM should be notified of any problems encountered during system tests.



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### Activation For Severe Weather

KCECC shall monitor NOAA Weather Radio at all times. Local commercial television and/or radio shall also be monitored when there is a forecast for potential severe weather.

The Outdoor Warning Sirens shall be activated for Severe Weather under the following circumstances:

- A. A Tornado Warning is issued for Kenton County by the National Weather Service. During the warning period, if an active funnel cloud or tornado is sighted by a credible and accountable source, the outdoor warning sirens shall be activated again. Credible and accountable sources include those persons known to be trained public safety personnel, city or county officials.

In the event that a previously issued tornado warning expires, and the NWS issues another tornado warning, the warning system will be activated again in response to the new warning.

- B. Upon receiving a report of a funnel cloud or tornado from a credible and accountable source (see definition above). The call taker or dispatcher should immediately advise the KCECC shift supervisor or dispatcher in charge of the information they have received. The Supervisor may then authorize the immediate sounding of the sirens, or contact the on-call KCHSEM official if there is any doubt as to whether the sirens should be activated. During this time, additional confirmation should be sought via the National Weather Service, commercial media outlets and units in the field.

Should a report of a funnel cloud or tornado be received from a source not meeting the "credible and accountable" criteria above, the following steps should be taken.

1. Seek information from the closest law enforcement units in an attempt to confirm.
2. Contact the on call KCHSEM official.

### Activation Procedure

The KCECC dispatcher shall make the following radio announcement on 59 Fire Ops, 59 Covington, 59 North, and 59 South:

*"The Kenton County Outdoor Warning Sirens are being activated for:*

- *a Tornado Warning issued for Kenton County by the National Weather Service."*

*or*

- *the report of a Tornado/Funnel Cloud sighting at (insert location) in Kenton County."*

The dispatcher will then use the system to activate the Outdoor Warning Sirens which will operate continuously for five (5) minutes. After this time, the KCECC Supervisor may repeat the activation if deemed necessary to ensure proper warning.



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When the sirens are activated the status of all public safety units operating in the affected area(s) should be checked by confirming that they heard the warning announcement. Their status should then be checked regularly until severe weather has cleared the area.

### Activation for Other Emergencies

Community emergencies other than severe weather may result in the need to utilize the Outdoor Warning Sirens (i.e. hazardous materials emergency). The activation may be for all siren sites or only specific sites as determined by the circumstances of the emergency.

In such cases, the siren(s) shall be activated **ONLY** at the direction of KCHSEM.



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### APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF WARNING SIREN LOCATIONS

SIREN #	LOCATION	ELEVATION (Ft. Above Sea Level)	GPS - North	GPS - West
1	507 Johnson Street, Covington	575	39.05.09	084.30.96
2	130 W 19th Street, Covington	539	39.04.04	084.30.53
3	2880 Madison Ave, Covington	513	39.03.27	084.30.54
4	Devou Park @ Concert Bowl, Covington	862	39.04.76	084.32.16
5	1A Sandbank Rd, Ludlow	545	39.05.20	084.32.94
6	2002 Highwater Rd, Villa Hills	850	39.04.40	084.34.47
7	2772 Amsterdam Rd, Villa Hills	863	39.03.67	084.36.51
8	777 Over Look Dr @ Cres. Springs FD	842	39.03.31	084.35.10
9	220 Grand View, Ft. Mitchell	818	39.03.12	084.33.78
10	1705 Highland Pk @ Ft. Wright FD	831	39.03.08	084.32.18
11	180 W. 43rd Street, Covington	493	39.02.53	084.30.52
12	511 Graves Ave. Erlanger FD	907	39.00.41	084.36.57
13	401 Garvey Ave. Elsmere FD	925	39.00.59	084.36.07
14	1829 Garvey Ave. Elsmere	873	38.59.27	084.36.10
15	4100 Narrows Rd. Erlanger FD	850	38.58.82	084.34.77
16	1041 Bristow Rd, Independence	917	38.57.95	084.35.88
17	5229 Taylor Mill Rd. @ Taylor Mill FD	854	39.00.94	084.28.81
18	1233 Hands Pike, Covington FD	852	38.58.97	084.31.09
19	6471 Taylor Mill Rd, Library Lot	886	38.56.54	084.30.55
20	5417 Madison Pk. @ Independence FD	901	38.55.97	084.32.71
21	5002 Madison Pk. @ Summitt View	864	38.57.57	084.32.53
22	10041 Decoursey Pk. @ Ryland Hts. FD	812	38.57.29	084.27.91
23	381 Dudley Rd @ Edgewood FD	875	39.00.47	084.33.97
24	2339 Dixie @ Ft. Mitchell FD	844	39.02.49	084.33.26
25	Fort Henry and Amsterdam, Ft. Wright	825	39.03.99	084.32.77
26	11800 Taylor Mill, Twenhofel School	894	38.54.89	084.31.40
27	2845 Rich Rd, Piner School	842	38.49.93	084.32.16
28	5400 Old Taylor Mill, Scott HS	874	38.59.72	084.30.29
29	2740 Turkeyfoot @ Crestview Mall	858	39.01.43	084.34.35
30	560 Centerview, Crestview Hills	828	39.01.34	084.33.58
31	Shinkle & Summer, Lookout Farm	858	39.01.85	084.34.64
32	Bristow & Calvary, Independence	895	38.56.24	084.34.29
33	3980 Madison Pike @ Pioneer Park	486	39.00.29	084.32.25
34	Visalia School Road	532	38.54.80	084.27.06
35	15344 Carlisle Road – Piner		38.48.31	084.33.36
36	Old Kenton Fire House		38.51.51	084.27.35