

## **VILLAGE OF ALSIP Warning System**

The Village of Alsip Civil Defense and Disaster Warning System consists of two sirens. One is located in the phone company garage area at 129<sup>th</sup> and Pulaski. The other unit is located at the Southwest corner of the Commonwealth Edison property at 118th and Cicero. In our warning system, two signals are being utilized. Both signals are associated with disaster warnings. The siren emits high and low tones in different combinations to achieve the various signals:

1. A sustained double tone (high and low together) is the alert signal used for tornado warnings.
2. An undulated double tone (continual up and down tone) would signal the possibility of a nuclear threat or disaster.

The alert signal is tested twice on the first Tuesday of each month. The first automatic three (3) minute test takes place at 10:00 a.m. Afterward, the dispatch center will perform a second manual test by activating the siren for one (1) minute at 10:15 a.m.

The following is suggested as a family guide if the alert signal is sounded at an unscheduled time:

1. Turn on the radio or television for more information as to the potential weather hazards or other problems.
2. Alert all members of the family to the potentially dangerous situation and move together to the safe area of the home.
3. While in the safe area, monitor the alert condition on radio until it has been established that the danger has passed.

In the case of severe storm conditions, the signal will not be sounded until it has been established that the Alsip area is actually in the path and the danger is near. As an example, this will be done when a tornado watch has changed to a tornado warning for the immediate area. For your information, please read the following:

A **Tornado Watch** is issued by the U.S. Weather Bureau for the areas where tornadoes may occur during the next several hours. The size of the average watch area is approximately 100 miles wide and 300 miles long.

A **Tornado Warning** means that a tornado has actually been sighted in the area or its presence has been detected by radar. Following issuance of a "Tornado Warning", persons in the path of the tornado should immediately take safety precautions. The warning will indicate the location where the tornado was sighted, the area through which it is expected to move, and the time periods during which the tornado will move through the area warned.

In the interest of safety and preparedness, be sure to visit the ESDA webpage on a regular basis. The ESDA webpage can be found by clicking on the fire or police tab located under the heading "Departments" at the top of the village website. You'll find helpful informational links, messages and alerts.

**Informational Bulletin Alsip Emergency Services**