



PRESS RELEASE

NORMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Nationwide Emergency Alert System Test

On Wednesday, November 9, 2011, at 1:00 PM (CST), FEMA, DHS and the FCC will conduct the first test of the Nationwide Emergency Alert System (EAS), which will run concurrently across all time zones.

This system test is the first of its kind in the country's history, designed to broadcast a nationwide message to the American public. The test will run concurrently on all radio and TV bands for three minutes. Most messages in the past aired from thirty seconds to one minute and did not broadcast to all time zones.

Norman's emergency responders want to reassure the public that it is just a test, and there is no need for alarm. During the exercise, listeners will hear a message stating, "This is a test." Although the EAS may resemble periodic, monthly tests that most Americans are already familiar with, there will be some differences. The audio message will be the same, but due to certain technical limitations, the television message scroll may be different or it may not display the words, "this is a test." The text at the top of the television screen may indicate that an "Emergency Alert Notification has been issued," but in some instances there might not be an image at all.

Below is the link to the official FEMA press release.

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=55722>

Please share this information with your family and friends so they are aware of the test.