



*The Cedar County Emergency Management  
exists to advance the preserving life and  
protecting property in the face of any hazard.*

## The Cedar County Emergency Management Commission

### Press Release

Tipton – The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) and the National Weather Service (NWS) have designated April 5-9, 2010, as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Iowa.

**On Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of April at 10:00 am the county wide siren system will be tested once again, this time in conjunction with the Statewide Tornado drill conducted by the National Weather Service (NWS).**

**No “all clear” siren is ever sounded in Cedar County which is consistent with most of the 99 Counties in Iowa and throughout the United States. Why, is no all clear signal sounded on the outdoor system you ask?**

**This is because the purpose of outdoor warning sirens is just that, it is for alerting those outdoors, not indoors, to seek shelter and tune to their local news outlets via a portable radio, TV or NOAA weather radio to obtain more detailed information about an actual event or a system wide test.**

**Yes, though the sirens can sometimes be heard indoors, though they are not designed for that, and sounding an all clear on an outdoor siren system to alert those who should be inside already seeking shelter, would be self defeating in its nature.**

During Severe Weather Awareness Week, the National Weather Service (NWS) will promote severe weather safety by issuing informative public information statements. Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) will give away 100 NOAA Weather Radios through a random drawing. Iowans can register to win one of the radios by going to [www.BeReadyIowa.org](http://www.BeReadyIowa.org).

“With recent flooding concerns still in the minds of many, and with the continued threat of seasonal flooding and severe weather, including tornadoes, it is important that Iowans be prepared for anything Mother Nature may deliver,” said David Miller, administrator for Iowa HSEMD. “We can’t always predict when disaster might strike, so



it is essential that Iowans remain informed of the weather and the possibility for disaster; and act now to prepare a family emergency plan and a have a kit.”

The highlight of Severe Weather Awareness Week is the annual tornado drill scheduled for Wednesday, April 7 at approximately 10 a.m. Schools, businesses, state and local governments, and individuals are strongly encouraged to participate in the drill. Additional information about the tornado drill can be found on local NWS Web sites.

For each day during Severe Weather Awareness Week, a different subject will be highlighted:

Monday – Flash Floods  
Tuesday – Weather Warnings  
Wednesday – Tornadoes  
Thursday – Severe Thunderstorms  
Friday – Family Preparedness

Additional information about severe weather and family safety can be found at:  
[www.BeReadyIowa.org](http://www.BeReadyIowa.org).

Tim Malott

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