



POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Courthouse, 227 South 6th Street, Suite 23B
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501
PHONE: 712-328-5777 FAX: 712-328-5819
www.pottcounty.com

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 6, 2010

County Residents Urged to Sign Up for Free Weather Alerts

The Pottawattamie County Emergency Management Agency recently announced the implementation of their CodeRED Notification and Severe Weather Alerting System. This system allows emergency officials to make mass telephone notifications to citizens during times of emergency and disaster. The system also provides phone, text or email notifications to citizens when a severe weather warning is issued by the National Weather Service. This service is free to the public.

This week marks Iowa's Severe Weather Awareness Week and all county residents are urged to sign up for the free CodeRED Weather Alerts. Last night marked the first warning issued of the severe weather season, coming late at night when many people were already in bed. Without a NOAA Weather Radio to alert you during the night, the only other warning you may get is if you hear an outdoor warning siren as a tornado approaches. Our system calls your home and/or cell phones anytime day or night to alert you to approaching severe weather. "Most people are typically around their home phone or have their cell phones with them so we feel this is the most practical method of receiving warnings in a very quick manner", says Doug Reed, an Emergency Management Specialist with the agency. The system allows you to choose what type of severe weather you are notified about and takes only about 5 minutes to register.

Residents of Pottawattamie County are asked to visit www.pottcounty.com and click on the CodeRED logo to register. "The only way to make this an effective system is to have residents take a proactive approach to emergency preparedness and register for the system", says Reed. In partnership with the citizens, emergency officials hope to increase warning time and effectiveness for severe weather.

If you live in rural Pottawattamie County or one of the rural towns within the county, register at www.pottcounty.com.

For those that live in the city limits of Council Bluffs, register at www.councilbluffs-ia.gov.

###

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Avoca - Carson - Carter Lake - Council Bluffs - Crescent - Hancock - Macedonia - McClelland
Minden - Neola - Oakland - Pottawattamie County - Treynor - Underwood - Walnut