

HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

News Release



Severe Weather Awareness: Tornado sirens will sound twice

April 13, 2011 – (Minneapolis) Tomorrow, the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office will be sounding tornado sirens to help educate people about Severe Weather Awareness Week. On Thursday, April 14, at 1:45 p.m., the Sheriff's Office Communications Division will be sounding all of the county's 238 sirens. The sirens are located in Minneapolis and communities throughout the county.

The annual tornado drill is coordinated by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and it is conducted in cooperation with Hennepin County Emergency Preparedness. The tornado sirens will sound again at 6:55 p.m.

Afternoon Tornado Drill — 1:45 p.m.

The drill traditionally occurs on Thursday afternoon at 1:45 p.m., when jurisdictions across Minnesota sound their outdoor warning sirens. Schools, businesses and other facilities are encouraged to conduct a tornado drill at this time.

Evening Tornado Drill — 6:55 p.m.

The evening drill is important because tornadoes and other types of severe weather often occur between 3 and 8 p.m. The 6:55 p.m. tornado drill also allows families and workers on later shifts to practice their sheltering plans. Residents are encouraged to review their severe weather plans and participate in statewide tornado drills.

You may subscribe to an alert system for your mobile device. For a list of these services, go to <http://www.severeweather.state.mn.us/WeatherWarnings.asp#pwa>

Just a reminder, sirens are intended to alert people who are **outside**. Inside your home, you should have a NOAA weather radio or you should stay tuned to local media -- to alert you to severe weather.

For media inquiries, contact Sheriff's Office PIO Lisa Kiava at 612-919-5918 lisa.kiava@co.hennepin.mn.us

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