



Congratulations to the teachers, students and parents for contributing to the Franklin City School District to receive an “**Excellent**” designation on the 2007-2008 District Report Card!

A Focus on Franklin

Outdoor Warning Sirens

The City of Franklin, Division of Fire will test the outdoor warning sirens on the first Wednesday of every month at 1200 hours. Monthly testing will be postponed until the next month if any of the following conditions exist at the time the test is to be conducted: a severe thunderstorm watch; a severe thunderstorm warning; a tornado watch; and a tornado warning. During a tornado warning, sirens will run a minimum of a three minute cycle, and be activated every ten minutes.



A *severe thunderstorm watch* is issued by the National Weather Service when the weather conditions are such that damaging winds 58 mph or more and hail three-fourths of an inch in diameter or greater are likely to develop. A *severe thunderstorm warning* is issued when a severe thunderstorm has been sighted and indicated by weather radar. At this

point, everyone should find a safe place, turn on a battery-operated radio or television, gather disaster supplies such as a flashlight and food and water, and wait for the “all clear” by the authorities. If you are indoors during a thunderstorm, you should

take the following precautions: secure outdoor objects such as lawn furniture that could blow away or cause damage; do not handle any electrical equipment or telephones because lightning could follow

through the cords; and avoid bathtubs, water faucets, and sinks because metal pipes can transmit electricity. If you are outdoors: attempt to get into a building or car; if no structure is available, get to an open space and squat low to the ground as quickly as possible—be aware of the potential for flooding in low-lying areas;

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

All Franklin citizens are invited to provide their input into the development of the City’s Comprehensive Plan.

When: Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Franklin Fire Station





For those who subscribe to Vonage, or other providers of Internet telephone service, to receive reliable 911 service, you must provide your location information every time you travel out of your service area.

Questions or Comments?

If you have a question or comment, please contact the City Manager, James Lukas, at 937-746-9921 or jlukas@franklinohio.org

Outdoor Warning Sirens (Cont'd)

crouch with hands on knees; and avoid tall structures such as towers, tall trees, fences or power lines. It is important to remember that tornadoes are spawned by thunderstorms. A *tornado watch* is issued by the National Weather Service when tornadoes are possible in the area and a *tornado warning* is issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by the weather radar. Learn the tornado warning signs: an approaching cloud of debris can mark the location of a tornado even if a funnel is not present; the wind may die down before a tornado hits; and tornadoes generally occur near the edge of a thunderstorm. According to the Fujita-

Pearson Tornado Scale, tornadoes can vary with winds from 40-72 mph at an F-0 and reach a maximum of 261-318 mph at an F-5.

If you are home, at work or school during a tornado warning, you should take the following precautions: go to a windowless, interior room such as a storm cellar, basement or the lowest level of a building; if there is no basement, go to an inner hallway or smaller inner room without windows, such as a bathroom or closet; get away from the windows; go to the center of the room and stay away from the corners because they tend to attract debris; get under a sturdy piece of

furniture; use arms to protect head and neck; and avoid places with wide-span roofs such as auditoriums or cafeterias. If in a mobile home, get out and seek shelter elsewhere.

Finally, in case of severe thunderstorm or tornado warnings, it is wise to develop an **emergency communication plan**. In case family members are separated from one another, have a plan for getting together. Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the “family contact”. After a disaster, it’s easier to call long distance; make sure everyone knows the name, address and phone number of the contact person.

In Case of an Emergency...

...there are several reasons why it is better to call from a landline phone as opposed to a cell phone. When you call 911 from a landline phone, the operator can automatically locate where you are, even if you don’t have the time

to tell them. Mobility has its price, requiring advanced technology to provide a 911 caller’s position to local dispatchers. Finally, because cell phones are mobile, they tend to be easier to lose, so you could end up with no

way to call for help during an emergency without a landline phone. With that said, while a single telephone account could suffice for emergencies, you may want to subscribe to more than one type of phone service.

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