


## Sirens are an “Outdoor” Warning Tool

Each year the National Weather Service and emergency management agencies get together and provide severe weather information to the public, emphasizing the fact that outdoor sirens are just that.....an Outdoor Warning System. We still get calls telling us that the sirens can't be heard inside the house.

Severe weather begins each spring in Kansas and we all need to be prepared any time of the day or night. The National Weather Service, emergency management, law enforcement, dispatch, and fire department personnel cannot notify every individual of the possibility of severe weather in their town. Lincoln County's CivicReady emergency notification system <http://ks-lincolncounty.civicready.com>, an **all-hazards NOAA Weather Radio**, local media outlets, and weather apps are your best sources for receiving severe weather alerts, warnings, and updates.



**Did You Know...**

### Important Information About Tornado Sirens

- Sirens are for **OUTDOOR** warning purposes and are not meant to be heard indoors.
- Hearing a siren is a signal to get indoors and seek additional information.
- It does **NOT** mean the threat has ended when the sirens stop sounding.
- Sirens are activated by city or county officials, not the National Weather Service.

Volunteer storm spotters, amateur radio operators, and first responders put their lives on the line when severe weather come into play. They do this because they care about the people in their communities and want to make sure everyone is given the best chance at survival. Storm spotters, law enforcement, emergency managers, and other volunteers relay severe weather reports to NWS Wichita. The National Weather Service in turn disseminates that information to the media and public through warnings, statements, and social media posts. Getting the word out to the public in a timely manner saves lives.

When severe weather threatens at night, it can be especially dangerous. Also, in the spring and summer, we cannot hear outdoor sirens over running air conditioners or lawn mowers. A **NOAA Weather Radio with a back-up battery** can make all the difference of you and your family.

Take responsibility and take proactive and protective action. If it appears that a severe thunderstorm is approaching your location, do not wait for the outdoor sirens. Take immediate action to protect your life and the lives of others in your home.

If a siren is activated in Lincoln County there will be 2 different tones:

1. Two tone: The wail will go up and down not changing in loudness just in tone. This tone is activated in some communities as a tool to make the first responders aware that there is an incident in their district that the first responder needs to respond to the station to mitigate the incident.
2. Flat Tone: This tone will be continual until the siren times out, indicating the threat of a tornado. If the siren is activated again it means that the tornado threat is still in the area.

**There is NO all clear tornado siren in Lincoln County**