



Emergency Preparedness



For more information about emergency preparedness, please contact the Southwest Regional Emergency Management Office:

RegionalEM@duncanville.com
972-780-5054

Preparedness starts with you!

Prepare Before Disaster Strikes

- Create a home emergency/fire escape plan. Have a meeting place outside the home. Practice with your family- everyone should be out in 3-4 minutes!
- Learn about potential hazards in your area and the right ways to respond to them. North TX is one of the most disaster-prone areas in the country.
- Have an out-of-town contact where you can evacuate to and who may better communicate among separated family members.
- Create a family emergency communications plan with numbers written down. Each family member should carry it with them.
- Put together an emergency supply kit for your home in case you have to shelter in your home or evacuate suddenly. The kit should include water, non-perishable food, change of clothes, cash, any needed prescription medicine or glasses, copies of important documents in a Ziplock bag, etc. Include necessary items for family members (ex. babies, elderly).
- Make a supply kit for your pets.
- For a comprehensive list of emergency kit items and more information on preparing yourself and your family, visit

www.KnoWhat2Do.com

<https://www.ready.gov>

STEAR Wellness Checks

STATE OF TEXAS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE REGISTRY (STEAR)

Do you or anyone you know need some form of assistance during a disaster event? The State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) is a FREE and voluntary registry that provides local emergency planners and responders with additional information on the needs in their community.

The cities of Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, and Lancaster use your contact information to assist with wellness checks during a disaster/emergency event. The City will only save information from accounts updated within the last 2 calendar years. Registering yourself in the STEAR registry DOES NOT guarantee that you will receive a specific service during an emergency.

How to Register:

- <https://STEAR.tdem.texas.gov>
- Dial 2-1-1 to sign up over the phone

Remember to log in to the system or call 2-1-1 each year to update your information and stay in the City's system.

City Emergency Notification System

What is Everbridge?

Everbridge is an emergency notification system that notifies you if there is a local emergency situation that might impact you.

Receive notifications about severe weather and other emergencies affecting the City like:

- Boil Water Advisories
- Missing Persons
- Other Emergency Notifications

Sign up for the exact alerts you want to receive and choose exactly how you want to be notified. Receive alerts via:

- Text message
- Phone call
- Email

How do I sign up for Everbridge?

Visit www.ci.desoto.tx.us and search "red alert". Or scan the below QR code.



Why are Sirens Activated?

The City's Outdoor Warning Siren System may be activated for a variety of emergencies. Sirens are intended to warn those who are outdoors; you may not hear them inside or in noisy areas.

When you hear the Sirens, you should immediately go inside and seek additional information on the hazard so you can take further action.

The Outdoor Warning Siren System may be activated for the following conditions:

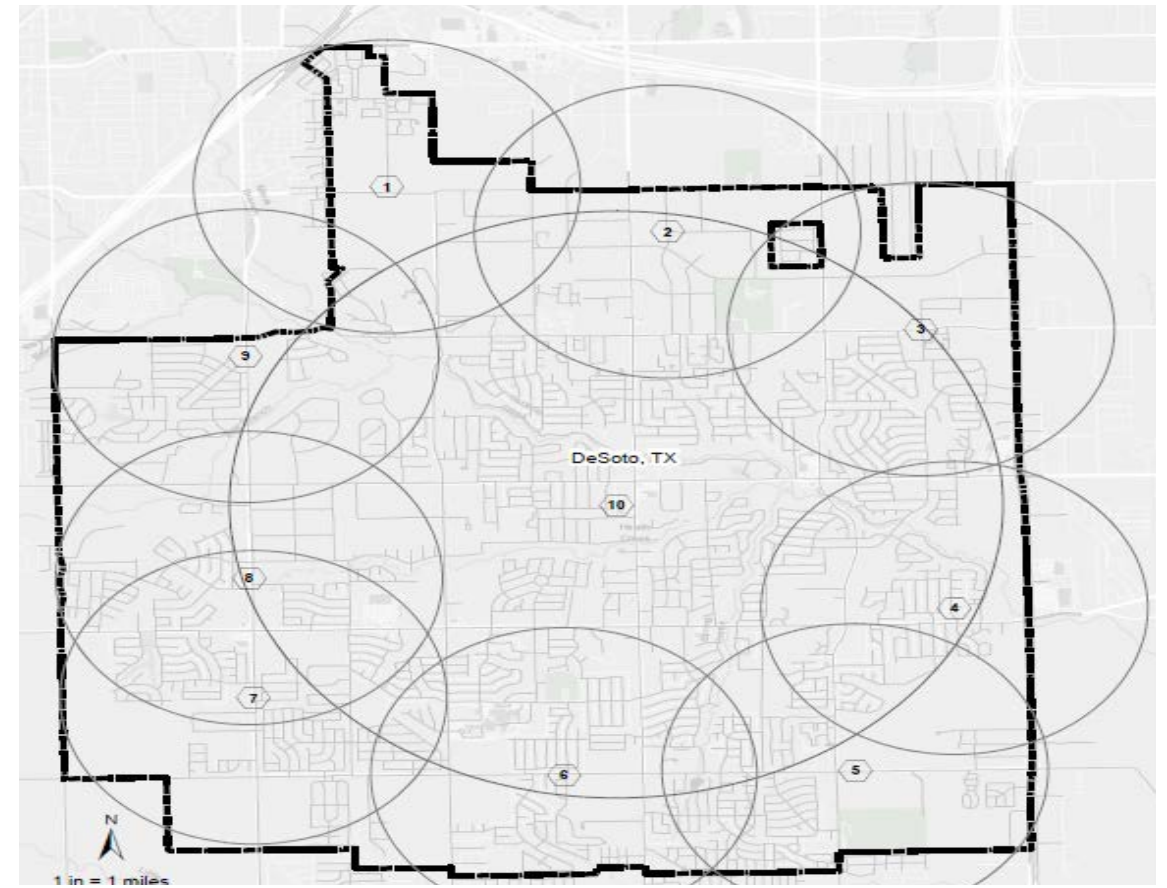
- A tornado warning issued by the National Weather Service that affects the City or verified reports of a tornado
- Destructive winds over 70 mph
- Reports of hail 1.25 in diameter or larger
- Other emergencies as directed by appropriate officials.

How to Shelter in Place

If a tornado warning is issued, immediately go indoors and shelter in place. Make sure everyone in your home and office building knows where the shelter location is. To shelter in place:

- Go to the lowest level of the home/building
- Go to an interior room with no windows or walls that touch the outside
- Kneel on the ground and cover your head
- Monitor the news or await an Everbridge notification so you know when the threat has passed

Siren Locations Map



Outdoor Sirens Tests

The Outdoor Warning Siren System consists of 10 strategically placed sirens that are tested on the **first Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m.** on blue sky days. Sirens are not tested if the sky is dark or stormy.

For more information on the City's Sirens visit:

<http://www.ci.desoto.tx.us/452/Siren-Locations-Testing>