



# VILLAGE WARNING SIRENS

The Village of Mount Prospect maintains six (6) warning sirens located throughout the community to notify residents who are outdoors of a tornado warning, or of a possible severe weather event. These sirens are a proven method to warn people at ball games, in their yard, or elsewhere who are not in contact with a radio or television.

Surrounding communities may have different policies for activating their sirens - which signifies the importance to understand what situations Mount Prospect sirens would be activated, and what immediate actions must be taken for your safety.

Village Warning Sirens can be found at the following locations:

1. Lions Park (Maple Street & Shabonee Trail)
2. Marcella Road & Gregory Lane
3. Algonquin Road & Linneman Road
4. Indian Grove School (1340 N. Burning Bush Lane)
5. Prospect High School (Forest Avenue & Kensington Road)
6. Busse Road at Estates Drive (Mount Prospect Golf Club)

**Q: WHO is responsible for activating the warning sirens?**

**A:** The Village's 9-1-1 Dispatch Center is responsible for activating the Village owned warning sirens.

**Q: WHAT should I do when I hear the warning sirens activate?**

**A:** If indoors at the time of activation: (1) Seek shelter immediately in the lowest level of your house, preferably in an interior room away from doors and windows. (2) Tune into radio or television stations for the latest information. (3) Remain in your place of shelter until the threat has passed.

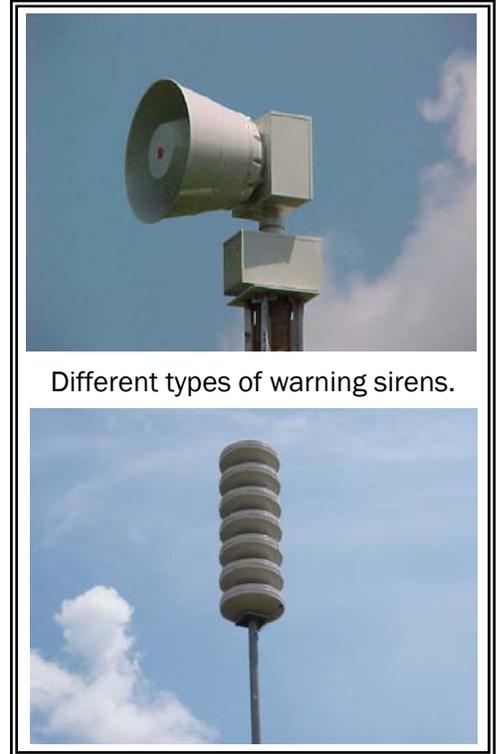
If outdoors at the time of activation: (1) Seek shelter indoors, but not in a car or mobile home. (2) If there are no safe options indoors and a tornado is imminent, lie flat in the nearest ditch or depression and use your hands to cover your head.

**Q: WHEN are warning sirens activated?**

**A:** Warning sirens are activated when: (1) A confirmed sighting of a tornado tracking toward the community is reported by a trained weather spotter within the community or surrounding communities. (2) The receipt of a tornado warning that has been issued by the National Weather Service which includes our community or surrounding communities. (3) Reports of significant ongoing storm damage due to winds of 70 MPH or greater along with golf ball sized hail.

**Q: WHERE can warning sirens be heard?**

**A:** Warning sirens are designed to notify those individuals who are outdoors at the time of a severe weather event or possible tornado. Warning sirens are not designed to penetrate the walls of homes and businesses, which means you may not always hear them inside your home. For this reason, it is important to have a NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) weather radio as part of your emergency preparedness plan. Weather radios broadcast local emergency and severe weather information from the National Weather Service and can be purchased at local retailers or online.



Different types of warning sirens.

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**Q: HOW do I know the threat of a tornado has passed and an “all clear” has been issued?**

A: Neither the National Weather Service nor the Village of Mount Prospect issues an “all clear.” We recommend you tune into local radio and television stations, as well as your NOAA weather radio for the most up to date information on the status of severe weather. A good rule of thumb is to wait 30 minutes past the last time you hear the warning sirens activate - and once conditions improve.

## Important Notes on Warning Sirens:

- ◆ Do not call 9-1-1 when the warning sirens are activated unless you have an actual emergency.
- ◆ Warning sirens in the State of Illinois are tested on the first Tuesday of every month at 10 AM.
- ◆ Sirens will NOT activate for Flood Watches or Warnings.
- ◆ When activated for a severe weather event or tornado warning, the sirens will activate every 10 minutes until threat is over or has passed.

## Important Tornado Tips



### ■ Tornado Watch

Tornado watches are issued by the National Weather Service when weather conditions are favorable for producing tornados. When a tornado watch is issued you need to stay alert and be prepared to seek shelter in case a tornado warning is issued. Tune to local radio and television stations, as well as your NOAA weather radio, for the most up to date information.

**Be aware that a tornado watch can turn into a tornado warning at any time!**

### ■ Tornado Warning

Tornado warnings are issued when the National Weather Service detects, or a trained weather spotter observes a tornado either on the ground or in the air. When a tornado warning is issued, *and our area is mentioned*, seek shelter immediately. Monitor local radio and television stations and weather radios for the most up to date information.

**The time to act is now!**

### ■ Warning Siren Activation

When you hear the warning sirens activated, the threat to Mount Prospect is imminent. Seek shelter immediately if you have not already and tune into local radio and television stations for further information.

**You have no time to waste!**

Take necessary precautions as early as possible. Do not wait for sirens to activate to take action. Be alert to changing weather conditions and have multiple ways to receive weather alerts/notifications. Be prepared and stay informed!