

AMARILLO/POTTER/RANDALL TORNADO DRILL

As part of the Texas Severe Weather Awareness Week, the Amarillo/Potter/Randall Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the National Weather Service (NWS) in Amarillo will conduct a mock tornado drill on Wednesday, March 6 at 10 a.m. Local businesses, organizations, schools and families are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to practice protective actions in the event of a large tornado coming your way.

The purpose of the drill is to:

- Determine if everyone in the community can receive the appropriate warning information
- Ensure employees, students and families know what to do and where to go when a warning is received
- Define times for sheltering and address issues like congestion/cluster areas and test employee/student/family accountability procedures

Essentially, this drill will give everyone a chance to participate and see how effective their preparedness plan actually is. The Amarillo/Potter/Randall Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and City of Amarillo departments will be participating in the drill and encourage others in the community to do the same. Below is an outline for the actions that will take place on **Wednesday, March 6:**

- 9 a.m. OEM Weather Watch Activation
- EOC personnel will be activated
 - OEM spotters will report to the field/vehicle for mock tornado spotting & test reporting & communication procedures
 - EOC personnel will make normal Weather Watch notifications to Amarillo, Potter, Randall emergency dispatches & key city/county facilities and personnel
- 10a.m. Mock Tornado Warning Issued by NWS
- NOAA Weather Radios will display the Mock Tornado Warning (**Note: There will be NO EAS tones activated**)
 - Media may activate their normal tornado warning activations
 - EOC personnel will make normal Warning Notifications to Amarillo, Potter, Randall emergency dispatches, media, & key city/county facilities and personnel
 - OEM will activate the Suddenlink Cable Cut In
 - **NOTE: There will be NO Outdoor Warning Siren activation. In a real Tornado Warning situation, all sirens would activate for a steady 5 minutes. No all-clear siren activation is given.**
- 10:15 a.m. Drill Over



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March 6th, 2013 10AM

Would You Know What To Do?