## Storm Warning Sirens



## Storm Warning Sirens – Where are they and what are they supposed to accocomplish?

Turbulent and sometimes dangerous spring weather is upon us. Naturally, this is the time of year when residents and public safety personnel are concerned about the operation and location of storm warning sirens. People want to receive plenty of warning to avoid having the sky fall on them or their home pulled from the ground by its roots.

The biggest surprise for most folks is learning that <u>outside storm warning sirens are not designed or intended</u> to be heard from inside enclosed structures whether that be a home or business. If the widows and doors are open, one's chances of hearing a siren are improved, but this is still no guarantee. So, if you fail to hear a siren from inside your home, please don't think that the siren is malfunctioning. The city's storm warning siren system is tested monthly at 9:30am the first Monday of each month. This timely testing ensures that under most circumstances, our residents can be relatively certain that the sirens are functioning as designed and intended.

The city's emergency management coordinator, Fire Captain George Albert, is constantly monitoring the system and is on the look-out for possible new warning siren locations as new development spreads throughout our borders.

Other options are available in lieu of the city's 21 storm warning sirens. The emergency warning system controlled by the National Weather Service and announced loudly and visually on television is one method. Most people become aware of this when their favorite television program is interrupted during a dangerous storm. And, of course, television and radio stations pride themselves in being able to issue timely advisories, warnings, information and instructions over their respective airwaves. Having a battery operated radio helps in the event of a power outage.

Probably the best, and most certain way, to learn of dangerous and impending storms is to purchase a weather radio receiver. This public alert device comes in many types and styles too numerous to mention. Please read the attached information or log into the following website to learn more about these types of weather receivers www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrrcvr.htm.

To follow is a coverage map and street listing of the city's 21 siren locations.

- 1. City of St. Joseph 21 Storm Siren Locations
- 2. Hosea School
- 3. Smith & Buffalo
- 4. 11th Street Road & South 16th Street
- 5. 10th & Pacific
- 6. 2200 block of Agency Road
- 7. 3500 block of Olive
- 8. 900 block of Charles
- 9. Edison School
- 10. 3700 block of Schoolside Lane (Skaith School)
- 11. 2nd & Cherry (Humboldt School)

- 12. 3700 block of Frederick
- 13. Randolph Street east of St. Joseph Avenue (city park)
- 14. Pershing School (Blackwell Road)
- 15. 22nd Street & Westminster Lane
- 16. 33rd Terrace & Pear
- 17. 5023 Frederick
- 18. Karnes & Leonard
- 19. Hirter Drive & N. Belt Highway (Fire Station #4)
- 20. Missouri Western State College (S. 51st Street)
- 21. Goff & Marion
- 22. Omnium (private)

