

## **Are you ready for another Bad Weather Event?**

### **Make Sure your CodeRED Information is Up to Date.**

CodeRED is an Emergency notification system used by the City of Lake City and Wabasha County.

Changes to the system back in the spring of 2015, requires users to log back into their accounts (if already signed up) and to modify their CodeRED accounts to add this weather warning feature. For some residents that did not follow through with these changes, the system did not perform as some may have expected for the July 5<sup>th</sup> Tornado Warning.

Remember landline phones automatically receive emergency notifications only. All cellular phones need to be signed up to receive any of the notifications whether Emergency or General Notifications.

"CodeRED allows geographically based delivery, which means street addresses are required to ensure emergency notification calls are received by the proper individuals in a given situation,"

Emergency notifications are issued for city-wide or county-wide emergencies.

General notifications cover several situations Local Public Works uses the system to issue an alert for snow emergencies (Plowing Streets) or area specific water or electrical shut offs etc.

People can also opt to receive various weather warnings. Weather warnings were not automatic when the CodeRED program was initiated several years ago, but since have been added to the service. You are likely receiving notices through other alert systems. Common ones include the American Red Cross, the National Weather Service, and Federal Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) program. CodeRED notices go one step further by allowing local officials to notify you when a local emergency situation arises.

People can sign up on their own or modify their account through the website <http://www.ci.lake-city.mn.us/> and click on the link in the top right hand corner. The County Website also has a link on its front page.

There are more options now for users to choose from on how and when they get alerts on their cellular phones texting devices and email accounts. Your account can always be changed added or deleting features and phone numbers and email addresses.

There is no charge for the CodeRED service to the user when signing up through the Website.

**Do you have a smartphone?** Make sure to download the CodeRED Mobile Alert app to receive free emergency, general and missing person notifications from Wabasha County directly on your Smartphone. To receive weather warnings on the App there is a yearly fee, as this comes directly from the weather service. As you travel to other communities that also use the CodeRED service and there is an active notification that affects your current location (other than weather), the app will also notify you and there is no charge for this service.

You can opt out of receiving all Emergency Notifications by calling 800-566-9780 from the phone you wish to remove.

### **Identifying Notifications**

You will know the call is from Wabasha County's CodeRED system when you see the following Caller IDs. Please make sure to add these telephone numbers to your phone's contacts.

Emergency Comm 866-419-5000

ECN Community 855-969-4636

Emergency Comm Weather Alert 800-566-9780

If you would like to hear the last message delivered to your phone, simply dial the number back.

John Yorde is the City of Lake City Emergency Management Director. He can be reached at 651-764-0631 or email [jyorde@ci.lake-city.mn.us](mailto:jyorde@ci.lake-city.mn.us) with further questions. Yorde is also available to give private instruction on the CodeRED system to groups that may be interested. The Wabasha County website also has a YouTube video attached showing how the system works.