

Fairview Heights Police Department

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[PRESS RELEASE]

[FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS OFFERS PHONE BASED WEATHER AND EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM – FIRST COMMUNITY IN THE REGION]

For Immediate Release

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[FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, IL] – The City of Fairview Heights announced today that it has acquired a new community notification system to be used to deliver important messages to its residents by calling them on the telephone with a recorded message. It is being offered at no cost to the residents and businesses in the community.

The city entered into an agreement with CodeRed (www.coderedweb.com) of Ormond Beach, Florida, to provide the service.

The City plans to use the system to notify residents and businesses of such issues as missing children or disabled adults, neighborhood crimes, possible evacuation plans, disaster assistance, and temporary road closures to name a few. The system can deliver a message to all persons subscribed to the system. Or, it can deliver a message to a specific area by use of a mapping tool.

The City also acquired the capability to deliver severe weather warnings using the same system. **Fairview Heights is the first community in the Bi-State area to offer this weather warning service to its residents.** The weather warning feature utilizes patented technology. Whenever the National Weather Service issues a warning where Fairview Heights residents are determined to be in the path of the storm, those subscribed to receive the weather warnings will receive a telephone notification through the system automatically. Phone calls begin within seconds of the warning being issued.

Calls are automatically made for severe thunderstorm, tornado, and winter storm warnings.

While this new system is cutting edge technology, residents are encouraged to continue to have multiple sources to receive their warning information. This includes having an all-hazards weather radio, having a battery powered radio, and tuning to local news channels for more detailed information.

Persons interested in subscribing to the system can do so through the Fairview Heights Police Department's website, <http://www.fhpd.co.st-clair.il.us/>. There is also more information available about the system on the website.

Those without internet access can call the Fairview Heights Police Department to subscribe at (618) 489-2130 or they may stop at the Police Department and complete a subscription form.