



Lebanon's Outdoor Warning System Alerts of Potential Tornadoes

Spring weather can be unpredictable. Thunderstorms cause most of the severe spring weather, since they can bring lightning and tornadoes. Lebanon's outdoor warning system is designed to warn people who are outdoors of potential tornadoes in the immediate area. The system consists of seven sirens located throughout the city, and the sirens are tested on the first Wednesday of each month at noon.

Other than for regular monthly testing, the siren system is activated only when a tornado has been spotted by trained observers or when the National Weather Service has issued a "Tornado Warning" for Warren County. A "Tornado Warning" means that a tornado has been spotted, or that Doppler radar indicates a thunderstorm circulation which can spawn a tornado. When a tornado warning is issued, immediate safety precautions should be taken.

What Should You Do if You Hear a Siren?

When you hear an outdoor warning siren you should seek immediate shelter. If you are outside, go to a pre-designated shelter area

such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar, or the lowest level of the building. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Do not open windows.

Once you are inside and in a safe location, turn on a TV, radio or NOAA weather alert radio to be informed of the storm location, path and the duration of the warning. No "all-clear" signal is issued. When the warning has expired it is safe to leave your shelter location, but remain prepared to respond to additional warnings that may be issued.

It is strongly recommended that every residence, business and school be equipped with a weather alert radio with battery back-up. Weather alert radios automatically activate to warn and inform you whenever a warning is issued for Warren County.

If you are in a vehicle, trailer or mobile home, get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy nearby building or



a storm shelter. Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes.

If you are outside with no building available, seek cover by lying flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of the potential for flooding. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location. Never try to outrun a tornado in urban or congested areas in a car or truck. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter. Watch out for flying debris. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most fatalities and injuries.

Take Shelter immediately, and do not wait to hear the outdoor warning system.

Local Tax Filing Deadline is April 15

It's that time of year again to begin preparing for annual tax filing. Lebanon residents and businesses must make their local tax filing by April 15, 2013 to avoid any penalties. Filing is also required even if no tax is due by the filer. For more information, contact the tax department at 228-3123.



Signs of Severe Weather

Whenever severe weather is possible, and you see any of the following signs:

- Dark, often greenish sky
- Large hail
- A large, dark, low lying cloud (particularly if rotating)
- Loud Roar, similar to a freight train

Park Program Offers Community Involvement

Lebanon's Adopt-A-Park program encourages community involvement in keeping the City's park system clean and visually appealing.

Organizations are encouraged to put together a work plan that could entail scheduled clean-up days, landscaping projects, or other improvement projects in our parks. This plan can be tailored to the organization's resources and could range from projects scheduled for 1-2 days a year, or on a continual basis.



The City is eager to discuss any opportunities there may be for an organization to get involved, and will provide a project liaison from the Park Board to assist in the process. For all approved projects, the City will place a sign in the project area recognizing the volunteer efforts of the organization.

Please contact the Deputy City Manager at 228-3103 for information about this program.

City's Beautification Program Returns

A Great Way to Recognize Outstanding Efforts in Your Neighborhood!

The Lebanon Beautification Program recognizes residential, business and rental property owners who have enhanced the beauty of Lebanon by either planting flowers, shrubs, trees and other landscape improvements on their property. Properties will be evaluated during May - October by members of the City's Shade Tree Commission, the Garden Clubs of Lebanon and a Master Gardener. Judges will use the following criteria:

- 1. General Appearance and Compatibility**
- 2. Design**
- 3. Maintenance**

For more information regarding program details and nomination forms call the Service Department at 933-7200, or download an application from the City's website at www.lebanonohio.gov and click on *Departments*, and follow to *Parks & Recreation*, and *Programs & Events*.

SAVE THE DATE!



Stompin' in the Street

June 8, 2013

Downtown Lebanon

lebanoncountrymusicfest.com

SBDC Offers One-Stop Assistance to Individuals & Small Businesses

The Warren County Small Business Alliance has opened a new Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at the Warren County Career Center. The new Warren County SBDC will serve as an advocate and resource for small businesses throughout Warren County. The SBDC assists local business owners to help build vibrant and successful enterprises by offering comprehensive business management and education services, including business planning, financial analysis, growth strategies, marketing and advertising.

Director Joe Schiesler has an extensive background with business finance and development, and offers flexible appointments to area residents needing advice on small business start-ups and existing business support. For more information, contact Joe at 513-932-8145 ext. 5317 or email at joe.schiesler@mywccc.org.

Is Your Contact Information Up-To-Date?

We strive to provide you with the best service possible. To ensure that you are receiving current information and can be contacted when necessary, business and residential customers are encouraged to contact the Service Department to provide your current phone number (and emergency, after-hours contact information for businesses). Call the Service Department at 933-7200 if you need to provide updated information.