



**VILAS COUNTY
SHERIFF
JOHN A. NIEBUHR**



PRESS RELEASE

August 31, 2010

Vilas County CodeRED and CodeRED Weather Warning Clients

Vilas County will be utilizing the CodeRED Emergency Notification System on 9/1/2010 to call the entire County. The calls will take place between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM and will continue until the entire database has been attempted. This call has two purposes, first, to announce an improvement to Vilas County's CodeRED capability, and second, to test the calling infrastructure.

The Vilas County Sheriff's Department has recently updated its account with Emergency Communications Network, providers of the CodeRED high-speed notification solution to include the CodeRED Weather Warning service.

CodeRED Weather Warning is an opt-in only weather warning product that taps into the National Weather Service's Storm Based Warnings. CodeRED Weather Warning automatically alerts affected citizens in the path of severe weather just moments after a warning has been issued. This enhanced service will ensure that severe weather warnings, Tornado, Severe Thunderstorm, and Flashflood, are issued to Vilas County CodeRED subscribers without delay.

This no-charge update will also allow message recipients to easily identify calls coming through the systems. Message recipient's Caller ID will read Emergency Communications Network or 866-419-5000 for CodeRED calls. And for CodeRED Weather Warning calls, either Emergency Communications Network or the number 800-566-9780 will appear on Caller ID displays.

Most relevant for our citizens, says Lt. Gary Peske, Vilas County's Communications Center Director, "Residents can simply dial the number displayed on their Caller ID to hear the last message delivered. This will greatly reduce the number of inbound inquiries handled by our office and will offer residents an immediate replay of the message."

The CodeRED system provides Vilas County officials the ability to quickly deliver messages to targeted areas or the entire County. If you are not sure that you are included in the database, simply log onto the Vilas County website, www.co.vilas.wi.us, and follow the link to the "CodeRED Community Notification Enrollment" page. It is recommended that all businesses register, as well as all individuals who have unlisted phone numbers, who have changed their phone number or address within the past year, and those who use a cellular phone or VoIP phone as their primary number.

Should you not have Internet access, please contact a friend or family member to help add your contact information. You may also receive assistance at libraries within the County or your town hall. You can also call the County directly during business hours at 715 479 4441 for assistance.