

NOTICE
Blue Hill Township's
Outdoor Early Warning System Sirens
Decommissioning Beginning in 2027

FEMA has approved Xcel's request to transition to an all-digital early warning system. As a result, Xcel offered the 49 sirens it owns and operates in Sherburne County to local jurisdictions.

The Blue Hill Board of Supervisors declined the offer, citing financial considerations, potential liabilities associated with owning and operating the sirens, and the availability of more advanced and reliable technologies for detecting and alerting the public to severe weather and other emergencies.

To help prepare Blue Hill Township residents, the following information is being shared well in advance of any siren decommissioning. Residents are encouraged to explore the alternative early-warning applications and equipment listed below to stay informed about severe weather emergency events.



Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) is FEMA's national system for local alerting that provides authenticated emergency and life-saving information to the public through mobile phones using Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), to radio and television via the Emergency Alert System (EAS), on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's NOAA Weather Radio, and to digital devices and services via the IPAWS All-Hazards Information Feed.



While the IPAWS WEA system is pre-loaded on cell phones, you have control over receiving certain categories of alerts (such as Imminent Threat or AMBER Alerts) in your device settings.

- **iPhone Users:** Go to Settings→Notifications, scroll down to Government Alerts, and toggle Emergency-Alerts and Public Safety- Alerts to ON.
- **Android Users:** Go to Settings→ Safety & Emergency (or Notifications)→ Wireless Emergency Alerts and turn Allow Alerts to ON.

Hyper-Reach WEA is a **FREE opt-in subscription**, for Sherburne County residents.



- Alerts can be sent to cell phones, home/land lines, email addresses, and TDD/TYY devices.
- Signup at:
https://signup.hyper-reach.com/hyper_reach/sign_up_page_2/?id=116062



NOAA weather radio.

- Radios cost range \$50.00-\$200.00 - depending on brand and adaption needs.
- FREE to listen online: <https://www.weatherusa.net/radio>



NOAA FREE app available, for cell devices.

- **Android Users:** App available on Google Play
- **iOS/iPhone Users:** App available on Apple Play



Visit your cell provider's store for help adding apps to your mobile device or modifying app settings. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SIREN DECOMMISSIONING CALL:
Blue Hill Township: 763-400-6891 or EMAIL: info@bluehilltpw.org