



THE CITY OF

JARRELL

City of Jarrell and Tornado Sirens

Williamson County sits in the most south part of what is known as “Tornado Alley”. This community has suffered through a direct hit from a F5 tornado in 1997, as well as several minor tornadoes and straight-line wind events in recent years.

While Tornado sirens are a good tool, **Tornado sirens are intended to be heard by people who are outdoors and within earshot of the siren.** Tornado sirens are not designed to alert people who are indoors, people outdoors wearing headphones or ear pods enjoying music or even in windy environments.

The City of Jarrell promotes the Warn Central Texas program. Warn Central Texas is a voluntary registration for the regional notification system (RNS) used by the [Capital Area Council of Governments](#) and its regional, government partners in Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis and Williamson counties. The RNS program is powered by [Everbridge](#), which allows local officials to contact people in their communities by cellphone, email, text or mobile app during times of disasters or public safety events. This includes severe weather events.

Williamson County has partnered with the Capital Area Council of Governments with providing free emergency alerts to your landline, cell phone, email, and using social media during emergencies and public safety events. The City of Jarrell encourages all who reside in the greater Jarrell area to register with WarnCentralTexas. The City of Jarrell has moved from outdoor warning sirens to digital alerts. The City of Jarrell’s goal is to do one thing: keep the public safer. The leadership of Jarrell feels that digital alerts provide a greater reach, than outdoor sirens alone.

Additionally, the best investment you can make for yourself, and family is to purchase a special NOAA weather radio with a tone alert feature. A **NOAA Weather Radio** receiver will sound an alarm to alert you when a storm warning is issued. It may be the only way you will learn of an impending storm; especially if you’re asleep, outdoors, or the electricity is off. Emergency alert radios can also be used to warn about other emergencies, such as a chemical spill. With the Emergency Alert Radio, you will be warned about dangerous situations in time to take shelter or other safe action. Every home should have an emergency alert radio, just the way all homes should have a smoke detector. Prices start at about \$20.00.

