



April 7, 2016

In 2015 the Durango-La Plata Emergency 911 Communications Center updated the Emergency 911 alerting system to CodeRED. This system has many features that enhance our ability to create and distribute emergency alerts to the community.

All land line phones are already included in the notification system. Cell phones, internet (IP) based phones and others are not.

If you had signed up for the previous system prior to January 2015 you will unfortunately have to sign up again for the new system.

Any information put in the system is exclusively for use to distribute emergency notifications from local Fire, Law Enforcement and Emergency Management.

Step 1: Go to co.laplata.co.us and look on the button bar for “Emergency Alerts”. This brings you to the CodeRED opt-in page

Step 2: Add an address

Step 3: Add phones and emails

Step 4: Choose if you want to get Animas River Information

Step 5: Choose managed account (make a login), or verify only

Step 6: Verify info, you can even move the mapped address to exactly where your house is

Now you are fully connected!

CodeRED has a mobile app for Apple and Android devices!

Search in your app store to connect your device

This is a separate system but will be connected to any CodeRED emergency alert through your location provided by your phone.

This works in any community using CodeRED which is about 2/3 of Colorado! You can also add other alerts from the weather service and others which work anywhere you go.

We have added Animas River Alerts the CodeRED Emergency Alert System!

La Plata County Emergency Management is working with San Juan Basin Health, Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM), San Juan County, City of Durango, Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and others on an alerting plan for the Animas River and its users.

The alerts will inform the public when something of concern is noticed in the quality of the water in the river. Strange color, hazardous spills and heavy sediment will be investigated for impacts and you get notified. Every incident noted (even when you aren't notified) will have a report posted to the CDPHE Animas River website.

Also, CDPHE is working with the USGS to place some real time water quality sensors on existing river flow gauges. The gauge above Silverton on Cement Creek and the gauge below Silverton at the mouth of the Upper Animas Canyon are slated for the upgrades in the coming weeks. The gauge in Durango near the walking bridge behind River City Hall has just been updated. This will add pH, Temp, Conductivity and Turbidity. Those sensors combined can give a picture of water quality based on metals and minerals.

We will use data collected from these gauges and sensors to monitor changes in the river chemistry and let you know when something has a potential impact to you.

These sensors are already on gauges in NM and UT. Check them out at <http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/wqwatch/> The Durango Colorado Gauge is live, other Colorado Gauges will be there soon!

How Do You Get The Alerts?

Follow the link instructions on the other side to sign up for **CodeRED**. If you have a land line phone you are already getting emergency alerts, but not the **Animas Alerts**. By making a profile you can add your cell phone and internet phone, email, or get text for "Emergency Alerts" and can opt-in for non-emergency "General Alerts". To get the Animas River specific alerts, be sure to check the box for "Animas River Information" If you already have a profile, log in and add it to your personalized alerts.

All river users are encouraged to sign up; Rafters, tubers, swimmers, ditch managers, ditch users, individuals and businesses. You don't need to live in the area to get these alerts.

More details of the alerting plan will be posted as they are finalized!



Keeping citizens informed.