

## If the Sirens are activated, is there definitely a tornado?

No. The sirens are Early Warning Sirens. Their purpose is to inform the public as early as possible about potentially dangerous weather conditions in our area.

## When are the Early Warning Sirens activated?

The current policy of the City is that when the National Weather Service (NWS) issues a WARNING for an area that includes any part of the city limits of Marshall, the Early Warning Sirens will be activated. Sirens are only activated for Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Warnings. For clarification, listed below is the NWS definition of Warnings, Watches and Advisories:

### Watch vs. Warning vs. Advisory

Following are the National Weather Service definitions for watch, warning, and advisory. These terms form the basis for each product issued to the public.

**Watch** A watch is issued when the risk of a hazardous weather or hydrologic event has increased significantly, but **its occurrence, location, and/or timing is still uncertain**. It is intended to provide enough lead time so those who need to set their plans in motion can do so. *Watches evolve into warnings, advisories, or they are canceled.*

**Warning** These products are issued when a hazardous weather or hydrologic event **is occurring, is imminent, or has a very high probability of occurrence**. A warning is used for conditions posing a threat to life or property. The NWS is the single "official" voice when issuing warnings for life-threatening situations.

**Advisory** An advisory is issued for **less serious conditions** that cause significant inconvenience and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to situations that may threaten life and/or property.

## What should you do when the Early Warning Sirens are activated?

You should monitor local TV, Radio, Weather Radio, or the Internet in order to obtain accurate weather information so you will be able to make an informed safety decision.

## Who activates the Sirens?

The Early Warning Sirens are activated from the Police/Fire/911 Dispatch Center. The dispatchers are instructed when to activate the sirens by the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Marshall.

## How Many Early Warning Sirens are there in the city of Marshall?

There are three sirens at the following locations:

1. Washington Early Childhood, Evans Street
2. William B. Travis Elementary School, Carolanne Street
3. Oak Lawn Golf Course, Victory Drive

## Is there an “All-Clear” tone or sound?

No. Because our sirens make only one sound, you will not hear an all-clear tone or sound. It is strongly recommend that you continue to monitor local radio, television, weather radio, or internet until you have determined weather conditions to be safe.

## Does the City of Marshall provide weather information related to the sirens?

Yes. Upon request, the City of Marshall will send weather condition updates\* via email or text messaging during the activation period of the Early Warning Sirens at no cost to the citizen.\*\*

\*Email and text messges are sent with weather information when theNWS issues a Watch or Warning. The City of Marshall makes no gaurantee for the accuracy or timeliness of delivered messages. Although good results have been achieved thus far, we are at the mercy of other equiment or services through the internet for the delivery of the messages. If you would like to be added to this list, email your request to [weatherinfo@marshalltexas.net](mailto:weatherinfo@marshalltexas.net).

\*\*Fees for text messges may apply from your current cell phone service provider.