

GUIDELINE  
BLOOMFIELD GENOA CITY  
FIRE & RESCUE

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**GUIDELINE CODE RED/REVERSE 911**

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**CODE RED**

The CODE RED system in Walworth County is available for use by Fire, EMS and Police Departments.

This system uses a series of phone lines to dial residents in a specific area and notify them of an event that may pose a life safety issue. Once activated the system dials the phone numbers in that area and announces a recorded message as to the situation at hand. This is not a guarantee that all homes in the area are notified. Businesses and residents on the NO CALL LIST will not be called with this system. This can be a tool that lessens the burden on Emergency personal in the event that a large number of resident's need to be advised of a life safety issue. This system only calls numbers that are listed phone numbers or have been registered with the Walworth County Emergency Management. Unlisted numbers can be registered on the Walworth County Web site. [www.co.walworth.wi.us](http://www.co.walworth.wi.us) You can find the registration site under County Departments. Emergency Management. Look for CODE RED.

CODE RED may be used to inform the public of incidents that may include but not limited to the following.

- Evacuation (flooding, chemical spill, gas leak, other Haz Mat incidents)
- Evacuation in place (notifying people not to leave there area or travel)
- Lost persons (child, elderly, mentally handicapped)
- Dangerous persons (usually done by law enforcement)
- Water conservation due to large fire or water main brake.
- Bio terrorism.

This system is not practical for tornado warnings. The system may not respond fast enough.

This system shall not replace manual evacuation of persons. The system may have a delay and DOES NOT guarantee that all persons will be notified. Persons with unlisted phone numbers or cell phones will not be called unless registered.

**How to initiate the system**

Prior to initiating the system the requesting department should know the following information.

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The requesting person's name, rank and department.

The cell phone number that the system activator can call you back at, if necessary.

What is the message. The voice recording will not be done by the Department calling. However, you should know what you want to have the message say.

The area to notify. The area to be notified can be defined by street names house numbers and/or intersections. In the event of a circular area, the center of the circle should be identified by the house number, nearest crossroad or a point of reference (1 mile east of Main St on First St.). House numbers or fire numbers may not be listed on the map used to activate the system so these may or may not be good point of reference. The size of the area to be notified may be defined as miles, half miles, quarter miles, etc. For a square or rectangular area use street/road names outlining the area and/or distances North, South, East, West from a point of reference.

Contact the Walworth County Sheriff Department using the radio or phone and advise them that you want to activate the CODE RED system.

The dispatcher will then notify the authorized personal that can activate the system. They will then have the authorized personal contact you or patch you to them. You shall relay the information to them and they will activate the CODE RED if it is appropriate for the incident. In some cases the system may need to be reactivated to notify persons in the calling area that it is ALL CLEAR.

Good communication with the persons who have the authority to activate the system will enhance the effectiveness of CODE RED system.