



Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FEMA, FCC to Conduct Nationwide Emergency Alert System Test

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – Aug. 6, 2019 – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will conduct a nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on Wednesday, Aug. 7. The test will not include a message on cell phones via Wireless Emergency Alerts. The nationwide test will be sent to radio and television stations beginning at 2:20 p.m.

The Calvert County Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Division, is not involved in the test but is helping to make residents aware of the test and the Emergency Alert System.

The test is being conducted through FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System. This year, the test message will originate from designated radio stations, known as Primary Entry Point stations, which participate in a component of the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System, or IPAWS, called the National Public Warning System.

All other radio and television stations, cable, wireline service providers and direct broadcast satellite service providers should subsequently receive and broadcast the test message.

This year's test will evaluate the readiness of the national alerting capability in the absence of internet connectivity. The test will be approximately one minute long, have a limited impact on the public with only minor interruption of radio and television programs, and will be

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similar to regular monthly EAS tests. Both the audio message and text crawl should be accessible to people with disabilities.

To learn more about emergency alerts, contact the Calvert County Division of Emergency Management at 410-535-1600, ext. 2638. Find information on Calvert County Government services online at www.CalvertCountyMd.gov. Stay up to date with Calvert County Government on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd.

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