



Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County to Test CodeRED Alert System

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – Oct. 2, 2012 – The Calvert County Department of Public Safety will conduct a test of the CodeRED alert system at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, in a southern county area including portions of Lusby, White Sands and St. Leonard. The test is being conducted to improve and enhance public outreach of the county’s emergency response systems.

The test area is bordered to the north by Calvert Beach Road and to the south by Breeden Road, Sollers Wharf Road, Old Mill Road, Hellen Creek, St. Paul Branch, Route 497 and Calvert Cliffs State Park. The area’s eastern border is the Chesapeake Bay and the western border is Route 2/4 and St. Leonard Creek. Communities in the area include Calvert Beach, Calvert Beach Estates, Flag Harbor, Long Beach, Walnut Cove, White Sands, Fort Hill and Mosley Acres.

People who live in the test area and have signed up for CodeRED alerts will receive either a text message, email or phone message, according to the choices they made when they signed up for the service. The message will say:

“This is a test of the Calvert County Emergency Management mass notification system. There is no need to respond to this message. Had this been an actual emergency you would have received directions or information in relation to the incident. Again, this is a test of the Calvert County Emergency Management mass notification system.”

The CodeRED emergency notification system enables public safety officials to directly contact Calvert County residents in the event of emergency situations such as bank robberies, dangerous persons, missing children and water/sewer service disruptions.

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Oct. 2, 2012

Page 2

The Calvert County Department of Public Safety urges county residents to sign up for the service by providing home telephone numbers, physical street address, cell phone numbers and email addresses. Those who previously signed up for CodeRED notifications can update their information at any time. Businesses may also register for the free service.

The Department of Public Safety reminds residents that CodeRED call notifications may include up to a five-second delay before messages begin. In the event of a call, residents should not hang up until the message has played. Citizens with caller ID will see the CodeRED phone number listed as 410-535-1600.

To register for the free CodeRED emergency notification system or to update contact information with text message and/or email addresses, go to www.co.cal.md.us and click on the CodeRED Emergency Notification System link. More information on emergency preparedness, visit online at www.co.cal.md.us/government/departments/safety/ or call 410-535-1600, ext 2638.

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to nearly 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services.