

Board of County Commissioners

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Carroll County Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Emergency Alert System Test to Occur on Wednesday February 24 at 2:20 P.M.

Minute-long Test will be Seen and Heard on Television and Radio Stations

Westminster, Tuesday, February 23, 2016 – Maryland will be one of twenty-two states participating in a national test of the Emergency Alert System tomorrow, Wednesday February 24, 2016, at 2:20 P.M. (Eastern). The messaging and style of the test will be similar to the regular monthly test message of the EAS, but is being conducted in order to test and assess the readiness for distribution of a national-level message. Carroll County residents may hear and see the following on participating radio and television stations tomorrow afternoon: “This is a national test of the Emergency Alert System. This is only a test.”

This test is being conducted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). According to FEMA, “Public safety officials need to be sure that in times of an emergency or disaster they have methods and systems that will deliver urgent alerts and warnings to the public when needed. Periodic testing of public alert and warning systems is a way to assess the operational readiness of the infrastructure for distribution of a national message and determine what improvements in technologies need to be made.”

More information on the Public Alert and Warning System and Wireless Emergency Alerts is available at www.fema.gov/ipaws or www.ready.gov/alerts.

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CARROLL COUNTY

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.