

WarnCentralTexas.org:

Registering Residents for Emergency Warnings!

Lago Vista– WarnCentralTexas.org, a new web portal created by a partnership of cities, counties and the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG), allows residents to register cellphone numbers and emails to receive emergency alerts by text, email or phone calls about their neighborhood.

“Whether you call it the Reverse 911, Emergency Notification System (ENS), or the Regional Notification System (RNS), the system for emergency warnings has been revamped & made even easier for registration” said Jerry Reyes, Lago Vista Police Captain & Emergency Management Coordinator. *“Anyone that has not already registered their cellphone numbers & e-mail addresses will not receive emergency warnings on the cells & e-mails unless they register them to receive the alerts.”*

Local governments throughout the CAPCOG region use a service that allows emergency personnel and government officials to directly contact residents when a serious threat is identified. This service allows officials to communicate important and vital information to the people who will be most at risk or affected by the event. The information pushed to the public through the system can include items such as:

- If or when residents need to evacuate their homes during floods and fires,
- If or when residents should take shelter during inclement or severe weather,
- What areas residents should avoid if a nearby hazardous materials spills occurs,
- What residents should do during a police manhunt, or
- How to take health precautions during a boil water notice or prolonged power outage.

CAPCOG uses the 9-1-1 database to call landline phones, but the number of landline users is steadily declining throughout the region as more people make cellphones their main communication tool. With the increasing amount of cellphone only households, it is becoming necessary that people register at **WarnCentralTexas.org** to receive these alerts. In some cases, it could be the only way for residents to receive important emergency warnings.

*“Be proactive & protect your family, yourself, & your property by registering to receive alerts. Take a moment & go to **WarnCentralTexas.org**.”* Reyes said.

Because the region uses the same system, residents can register their email and cell numbers to multiple locations in the region. This allows for one to get alerts about their home, office or even a local vacation home.

WarnCentralTexas.org serves Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis and Williamson counties.

Remember: **Stay informed — Register to get emergency warnings in your neighborhood by text, email or phone.**