# Local Area Emergency (LAE)

An emergency message that defines an event that, by itself, does not pose a significant threat to public safety and/or property. However, the event could escalate, contribute to other more serious events, or disrupt critical public safety services. Instructions, other than public protective actions, may be provided by authorized officials.

## Blackout Periods.

In order to prevent awakening the public in the middle of the night for warnings of non-imminent events, and to reduce disabling of audible alarms, smartphone alerts, etc., a blackout period is recommended from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. local time. In such situations, the warning should be delayed until the end of the blackout period. Non-alerting channels may still be used, such as email notification, press releases, etc. throughout blackout periods. When significant public impact is expected and lead time is so short that immediate notification is needed before the end of the blackout period, an alert should be issued.

## Air Quality – Hazardous Alert

Hazardous Air Quality Index values over 300 trigger health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is even more likely to be affected by serious health effects. Everyone should avoid any outdoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly, and children should remain indoors.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Air Quality Index (AQI) Values** | **Levels of Health Concern** | **Description** |
| 0 to 50 | Good | The AQI value for your community is between 0 and 50. Air quality is satisfactory and poses little or no health risk |
| 51 to 100 | Moderate | The AQI is between 51 and 100. Air quality is acceptable; however, pollution in this range may pose a moderate health concern for a very small number of individuals. People who are unusually sensitive to ozone or particle pollution may experience respiratory symptoms. |
| 101 to 150 | Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups | When AQI values are between 101 and 150, members of sensitive groups may experience health effects, but the general public is unlikely to be affected. |
| 151 to 200 | Unhealthy | Everyone may begin to experience health effects when AQI values are between 151 and 200. Members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects. |
| 201 to 300 | Very Unhealthy | AQI values between 201 and 300 trigger a health alert, meaning everyone may experience more serious health effects. |
| 301 to 500 | Hazardous | AQI values over 300 trigger health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is even more likely to be affected by serious health effects. |

<https://www3.epa.gov/airnow/aqi_brochure_02_14.pdf>

## Emergency Curfew

Informs the public to be home or indoors at certain times, but is not a shelter-in-place protective order. An emergency curfew is typically issued as part of a State of Emergency because of public riots, pandemics, terrorism incidents, etc.

## Emergency Travel Ban

Informs the public not to drive on public roads, use mass transit, etc.; but is not a curfew. A travel ban is usually declared as part of a State of Emergency due to extreme weather, post-earthquake or tsunami damage, etc. when private vehicles on the roads would hinder recovery efforts.

## Utility/Infrastructure Outage

Informs the public about extended, wide-spread utility or infrastructure outage, such as an electrical grid shutdown, rolling blackouts, water supply shortages or fuel rationing. Typically, this is not used for brief, storm related utility outages. While it is unusual for a large metropolitan area to experience lengthy utility outages, these types of events have occurred. After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, portions of New Orleans went without water for about 2 months. After an earthquake, the loss of power generation or transmission infrastructure may require rolling blackouts a long distance from the damaged areas.

**Note:** A 911 telephone outage should use the TOE event code.

**Emergency Alert System Elements**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Originator Code (ORG):** | CIV | Civil Authority |
| **Event Code (EEE):** | LAE | Local Area Emergency |
| **Location Codes (PSSCCC):** | PSSCCC | Locations included in alert area |
| **Duration (HHMM):** | 0600 | 6 Hours |

**Common Alerting Protocol Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category:** | Safety |
| **Event:** | Local Area Emergency |
| **Response Type:** | None |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urgency:** | [ ]  Immediate | [x]  Expected | [ ]  Future | [ ]  Past | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Severity:** | [ ]  Extreme | [x]  Severe | [ ]  Moderate | [ ]  Minor | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Certainty:** | [ ]  Observed | [x]  Likely | [ ]  Possible | [ ]  Unlikely | [ ]  Unknown |

**Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the hazardLocation of the emergencyRecommended action (urgency)Expected expiration if known | *[Severity] [Event/Hazard] [Certainty]*in *[Short Area/City/County/State].**[Recommended Action] [Urgency]*until *[hh:mm][am/pm].* |

**Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Recommended action (urgency)Description of hazardLocation of emergencyExpected expiration if known | *[Recommended Action] [Urgency]*due to *[Severity] [Event/Hazard] [Certainty]*in the *[Area/City/County/State]* areauntil *[hh:mm] [a.m./p.m.] [Day].* |

**Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.Why do people need to act?Where is the emergency taking place? | The *[Official Government Agency]* has issued a Local Area Emergencybecause a *[Severity] [Event/Hazard]* is *[Certainty]* in *[City] [State].* At *[Incident Time] [Day]*, *[Describe the incident, hazard and its consequences]*.This impacts people in *[Area/City/County/State]* including *[Describe location by reference to obvious geographic features, such as roads and rivers, rather than with abstract descriptions such as a one-mile radius of some intersection. The preferred method of describing the area should use compass directions and neighborhood and landmark names where appropriate.]*People in other areas in *[Area/City/County]* are not affected at this time. |

**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What should people do?When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)Closing. | For your personal safety, you should *[Urgency] [Recommended actions and extended instructions]*The Local Area Emergency remains in effect until further notice. This message will be updated in [Message Duration], or sooner if needed.For more information, check www.*[Official Web Site]*.gov, or tune to local news media. Please do not call *[9 1 1],* except for a serious emergency. |

**Emergency Alert System Elements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Originator Code (ORG):** | CIV | Civil Authority |
| **Event Code (EEE):** | LAE | Local Area Emergency |
| **Location Codes (PSSCCC):** | PSSCCC | Locations included in alert area |
| **Duration (HHMM):** | 0600 | 6 Hours |

**Common Alerting Protocol Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category:** | Env |
| **Event:** | Civil Emergency Message |
| **Response Type:** | Execute |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urgency:** | [ ]  Immediate | [x]  Expected | [ ]  Future | [ ]  Past | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Severity:** | [ ]  Extreme | [x]  Severe | [ ]  Moderate | [ ]  Minor | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Certainty:** | [ ]  Observed | [x]  Likely | [ ]  Possible | [ ]  Unlikely | [ ]  Unknown |

**Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the hazardLocation of the emergencyRecommended action (urgency)Expected expiration if known | [Test] Hazardous smoke levelsfrom *[wildfire name].*Avoid outdoor activities. |

**Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Recommended action (urgency)Description of hazardLocation of emergencyExpected expiration if known | [Test] Avoid outdoor activitiesdue to hazardous smoke levelsfrom *[wildfire name]* impacting *[location/city]* |

**Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.Why do people need to act?Where is the emergency taking place? | [This is a test.]The *[Official Government Agency]* has issued a Hazardous Air Quality Warningbecause hazardous smoke levels from *[Wildfire Name]* impacting *[City] [State]*. Between 4 a.m. and 8 a.m. smoke from the [Wildfire Name], xx miles from [location/city] reached hazardous levels in [City]. A Hazardous Air Quality Warning is the most serious health impact level.This impacts people outdoors, including healthy people, in *[Area/City/County/State]*, including *[Describe location by reference to obvious geographic features, such as roads and rivers, rather than with abstract descriptions such as a one-mile radius of some intersection. The preferred method of describing the area should use compass directions and neighborhood and landmark names where appropriate.]*People in other areas of *[Area/City/County]* are not affected at this time. |

**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What should people do?When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)Closing. | For your safety, you should take the following precautions:* 1. Be aware of smoke concentrations in your area.
	2. Avoid smoke by staying indoors, closing all windows and doors and using filtered heating or air-conditioner system.
	3. Avoid strenuous outdoor activity including sports practice, work and recreation.
	4. People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly, and children should remain indoors.
	5. If outdoors, do not rely solely on face masks. These masks will not protect your lungs from smoke.

The National Weather Service predicts that calm conditions, a high pressure system, and nighttime temperature inversions could cause very smoky mornings through Saturday.This message will be updated in 6-hours, or sooner if needed. For more information, check www.*[Official Web Site]*.gov, or tune to local news media. Please do not call *[9 1 1],* except to report a serious emergency.[This concludes this test.] |

**Emergency Alert System Elements**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Originator Code (ORG):** | CIV | Civil Authority |
| **Event Code (EEE):** | LAE | Local Area Emergency |
| **Location Codes (PSSCCC):** | 036005, 036047, 036061, 036081, 036085 | New York City, NY |
| **Duration (HHMM):** | 0600 | 6 Hours |

**Common Alerting Protocol Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category:** | Transport |
| **Event:** | Local Area Emergency |
| **Response Type:** | Avoid |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urgency:** | [ ]  Immediate | [x]  Expected | [ ]  Future | [ ]  Past | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Severity:** | [ ]  Extreme | [x]  Severe | [ ]  Moderate | [ ]  Minor | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Certainty:** | [ ]  Observed | [x]  Likely | [ ]  Possible | [ ]  Unlikely | [ ]  Unknown |

**Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the hazardLocation of the emergencyRecommended action (urgency)Expected expiration if known | [Test] Travel banin New York City.Non-emergency vehicles must be off roadsby 2:30PM |

**Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Recommended action (urgency)Description of hazardLocation of emergencyExpected expiration if known | [Test] Non-emergency vehicles must be off roads.Travel ban due to snow emergencyin New York Cityfrom 2:30 p.m. today until 7 a.m. Sunday |

**Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.Why do people need to act?Where is the emergency taking place? | [This is a test.]The Mayor of New York City has issued a city-wide travel ban because of a snow emergency in New York City, New York. The Mayor banned non-emergency vehicles from New York City roads, except emergencies, beginning at 2:30 PM today. The latest forecasts anticipate approximately 20 to 25 inches of snow across New York City. Travel conditions are extremely dangerous. M.T.A. bus service was suspended at noon.This impacts people in New York City, including all five boroughs - Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, The Bronx, and Staten Island.  |

**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What should people do?When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)Closing. | For your safety, you must not drive in New York City from 2:30 p.m. today until 7 a.m. Sunday morning; except for an emergency. You need to stay off the roads so that snow removal crews can do their work and keep streets passable for emergency vehicles.The Travel Ban remains in effect until 7 a.m. Sunday morning. This message will be updated in 6-hours, or sooner if needed. For more information, check www.NYC.gov, or tune to local news media. Please do not call 9 1 1, except for a serious emergency.[This concludes this test.] |

**Emergency Alert System Elements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Originator Code (ORG):** | CIV | Civil Authority |
| **Event Code (EEE):** | LAE | Local Area Emergency |
| **Location Codes (PSSCCC):** | 024510 | City of Baltimore, MD |
| **Duration (HHMM):** | 0600 | 6 Hours |

**Common Alerting Protocol Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category:** | Safety |
| **Event:** | Local Area Emergency |
| **Response Type:** | Avoid |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urgency:** | [ ]  Immediate | [x]  Expected | [ ]  Future | [ ]  Past | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Severity:** | [ ]  Extreme | [x]  Severe | [ ]  Moderate | [ ]  Minor | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Certainty:** | [ ]  Observed | [x]  Likely | [ ]  Possible | [ ]  Unlikely | [ ]  Unknown |

**Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the hazardLocation of the emergencyRecommended action (urgency)Expected expiration if known | [Test] Emergency curfewin Baltimore city.Go home or indoorsfrom 10PM to 5AM |

**Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Recommended action (urgency)Description of hazardLocation of emergencyExpected expiration if known | [Test] Go home or indoors.Emergency nighttime curfewin City of Baltimorefrom 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. |

**Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.Why do people need to act?Where is the emergency taking place? | [This is a test.]The Mayor of Baltimore has issued an emergency nighttime curfew order for the City of Baltimore. The rioting in the City of Baltimore has created significant danger to public safety and property.This impacts all persons in the City of Baltimore, including those traveling through the City of Baltimore.The curfew does not apply to the following people:1. persons suffering a health emergency who are traveling to a Health Care Facility;
2. persons going to and from work with a letter from their employer;
3. individuals traveling through Baltimore City via Interstate 95 and who are not driving into the City; and
4. authorized government officials on official business, including police, fire and emergency response officials.
 |

**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What should people do?When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)Closing. | For your safety, you should stay home or indoors during the curfew hours. No person in the City of Baltimore may be in a public place during curfew hours.The curfew hours begin each night at 10 p.m. until 5 a.m.; from Thursday evening, April 28 through Thursday morning, May 5. This message will be updated in 6-hours, or sooner if needed.For more information, check www.BaltimoreCity.gov, or tune to local news media. Please do not call 9 1 1, except for a serious emergency.[This concludes this test.] |

**Emergency Alert System Elements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Originator Code (ORG):** | CIV | Civil Authority |
| **Event Code (EEE):** | LAE | Local Area Emergency |
| **Location Codes (PSSCCC):** | 047103, 047127 | Lincoln county TN, Moore county TN |
| **Duration (HHMM):** | 0600 | 6 Hours |

**Common Alerting Protocol Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category:** | Infra |
| **Event:** | Local Area Emergency |
| **Response Type:** | Prepare |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urgency:** | [ ]  Immediate | [x]  Expected | [ ]  Future | [ ]  Past | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Severity:** | [ ]  Extreme | [x]  Severe | [ ]  Moderate | [ ]  Minor | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Certainty:** | [ ]  Observed | [x]  Likely | [ ]  Possible | [ ]  Unlikely | [ ]  Unknown |

**Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the hazardLocation of the emergencyRecommended action (urgency)Expected expiration if known | [Test] Scheduled power outagein Moore County.Prepare for outagestarting at 12AM |

**Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Recommended action (urgency)Description of hazardLocation of emergencyExpected expiration if known | [Test] Prepare forscheduled power outagein Moore Countystarting at Midnight |

**Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.Why do people need to act?Where is the emergency taking place? | [This is a test.]Duck River Electric customers will be without power for about 4 hours beginning at Midnight.The scheduled outage will allow Duck River and TVA to perform system maintenance.The electric outage will affect all of Moore County and part of Lincoln County around Booneville.  |

**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What should people do?When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)Closing. | If you rely on medical equipment dependent on electricity, have a plan to maintain use of your equipment during the outage. Charge your cell phones. Cordless phones will not work during the power outage.For more information, check www.DREMC.com, or tune to local news media. Please do not call 9 1 1, except for a serious emergency.[This concludes this test.] |