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Public Information Statement 24-17
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1130 AM EST Tue Mar 5 2024

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 -NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Listeners
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Douglas C. Young
 Chief, Digital and Graphical Information Support Branch

Subject: Indiana Statewide NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) and
Emergency Alert System (EAS) Live Event Code Test for a Tornado Warning on
Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 10:15 AM EDT

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb has proclaimed March 10-16, 2024 as Severe
Weather Preparedness Week.

On Tuesday, March 12 at approximately 10:15 AM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)
the National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) in
Chicago, IL (LOT); Indianapolis, IN (IND); Louisville, KY (LMK); Northern
Indiana (IWX) and Paducah, KY (PAH); the Indiana Department of Homeland
Security (IDHS); and the Indiana Broadcasters Association (IBA) plan to
conduct a live code Tornado Warning test throughout most of the state of
Indiana.

The live code test supports the Indiana Statewide Tornado Drill and
maximizes participation in the drill by local emergency management
agencies and broadcasters and tests broadcast systems.

A live code test means a Tornado Warning test message will be disseminated
via audio and Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) tones over NWR
transmitters serving Indiana and will activate the Emergency Alert System
(EAS).

The audio message will use the phrase "Tornado Warning" but will state
that the message is only a test. The World Meteorological Organization
(WMO) text messages will use a Valid Time Event Code (VTEC) Product Class
Code of /T/ for Test and the word Test will be repeated several times in
the body of the message. The test will not be sent to cellphones via the
Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system, although in an actual Tornado
Warning, this system would be used.

Note that the NWS WFO in Wilmington, OH (ILN), serving part of extreme
eastern and southeastern Indiana, will not conduct a live event code test
for a Tornado Warning on March 12, per agreement with the Ohio
Broadcasters Association and Cincinnati-area broadcasters. Instead, this
office will issue a Required Weekly Test (RWT) message and a Special

Weather Statement (SPS) with tornado preparedness information. This is the same practice and procedures used for the most recent Indiana statewide test.

In the event of significant weather hazards in Indiana on the morning of March 12, the test will be postponed to Wednesday, March 13 at 10:15 AM EDT and will be preceded by another Public Information Statement announcing the change. If significant weather hazards cause the backup date test to be canceled, the test drill will be canceled altogether and not rescheduled.

Table 1. The NWS Text Products to be Disseminated by WFOs Indianapolis, Louisville, Paducah, Northern Indiana and Chicago during the Test

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Tornado Warning	WFUS53 KIND	TORIND
Tornado Warning	WFUS53 KLMK	TORLMK
Tornado Warning	WFUS53 KPAH	TORPAH
Tornado Warning	WFUS53 KIWX	TORIWX
Tornado Warning	WFUS53 KLOT	TORLOT

More information about Indiana Severe Weather Preparedness Week and the test Tornado Drill can be found online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/ind/Severewxweek>

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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