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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 24-10
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
300 PM EST Wed Feb 21 2024

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPORT
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Douglas C. Young
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 Branch

Subject: Kentucky Statewide NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)
 and Emergency Alert System (EAS) Live Event Code Test
 for a Tornado Warning on March 6, 2024 at 10:07 AM EST

The National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) in Jackson, Louisville and Paducah, KY, and Charleston, WV; the Kentucky Emergency Management Agency; and the Kentucky Broadcasters Association plan to conduct a live code Tornado Warning test on Wednesday, March 6 at approximately 10:07 AM Eastern Standard Time (EST) throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The purpose of this test is to support the Kentucky Statewide Tornado Drill, part of Kentucky's annual Severe Weather Awareness Week. The use of the live event code is intended to maximize participation in the Statewide Tornado Drill by local Emergency Management Agencies and by broadcast partners, increasing the preparedness of partners and the public.

The emergency test message will be broadcast across the Commonwealth of Kentucky via audio and Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) tones over 38 of the 41 NOAA Weather Radio transmitters serving Kentucky and will activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS). Per agreement with Cincinnati-area broadcasters, the live code test will not be conducted for the counties in northern Kentucky served by the WFO in Wilmington, Ohio.

The audio message 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.

Please note the 38 participating NWR transmitters conducting the live event code test will not conduct a Required Weekly Test on March 6, 2024.

The test will be postponed and rescheduled to a fair-weather day if there are significant weather hazards in Kentucky on the morning of March 6. A rescheduled test will be preceded by another Public Information Statement.

Table 1. The NWS text products to be disseminated by WFOs Jackson, Louisville and Paducah, KY, and Charleston, WV during the test.

Product Name -----	WFO -----	WMO Heading -----	AWIPS ID -----
Tornado Warning	Jackson	WFUS53 KJKL	TORJKL
Tornado Warning	Louisville	WFUS53 KLMK	TORLMK
Tornado Warning	Paducah	WFUS53 KPAH	TORPAH
Tornado Warning	Charleston	WFUS53 KRLX	TORRLX

Frequently-asked questions are provided online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/lmk/KentuckyTornadoDrill>

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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