



**PUBLIC SAFETY
PRESS RELEASE**
February 29, 2012

CodeRED Emergency Notification and Weather Warning System

City of Norton citizens now can get free phone notifications of weather and other emergency events through CodeRED.

Emergency Communications Network provides the CodeRED high-speed emergency notification solution and Weather Warning service. Citizens can opt into the package to get immediate phone notification of critical events affecting the entire Norton area or specific sections of the city.

The CodeRED Weather Warning service taps into the National Weather Service's Storm Based Warnings, and it automatically sends telephone alerts to citizens in the path of severe weather just moments after a warning has been issued.

"Residents can simply dial the number displayed on their Caller ID to hear the last message delivered," according to Norton Assistant City Manager Fred Ramey. "This will greatly reduce the number of inbound inquiries handled by our emergency dispatch center and will offer residents an immediate replay of the message."

Enrollment in the CodeRED system is easy and at no charge. Visit the official Norton government website at www.nortonva.gov and click on the CodeRED link at the lower left of the main page to enroll at the "CodeRED Community Notification Enrollment" page. Citizens can opt into their choice of the emergency, general notification and/or Weather Warning features for landline or mobile phones.

It is recommended that all businesses register, as well as all individuals who have unlisted phone numbers, who have changed their phone number or address within the past year, and those who use a cellular phone or VoIP phone as their primary number. Those without Internet access may call City offices at 679-1160, Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM-5:00 PM to supply their information over the phone.

Citizens can recognize when they receive calls from the service when their caller ID displays the following:

866-419-5000 or Emergency Comm for Emergency Notifications

855-969-4636 or ECN Community for General Notifications

800-566-9780 or Emergency Comm for CodeRED Weather Warning Alerts

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our offices at 276-679-1160.

www.nortonva.gov