



## FIRST NATIONWIDE TEST OF THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

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November 7, 2011

*For Immediate Release*

### **Test to Take Place November 9 starting at 1 p.m.**

On November 9, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. EST, [1:00 p.m., CST], the federal government will conduct the first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The test will last up to three and a half minutes. During this period, regularly scheduled television, radio, cable, and satellite shows will be interrupted as the system is being tested. **Kenner officials want to ensure that the public is aware this event will be just a test, and not a real emergency alert.**

The test is being conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), as part of their ongoing efforts to keep the nation safe during emergencies and strengthen our resilience against all hazards.

The national Emergency Alert System is an alert and warning system that can be activated by the president, if needed, to provide information to the American public during emergencies. NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS), governors, and state and local emergency authorities also use parts of the system to issue more localized emergency alerts. The test is an important exercise in ensuring that the system is effective in communicating critical information to the public in the event of a real national emergency.

**Similar to emergency alert system tests that are already conducted frequently on the local level, the nationwide test will involve television and radio stations across the United States.**

A national test will help federal partners and EAS participants determine the reliability of the system, as well as its effectiveness in notifying the public of emergencies and potential dangers both nationally and regionally. The test will also provide the FCC and FEMA a chance to identify improvements that need to be made to build a modernized and fully accessible Emergency Alert System. For more detailed information on the test, go to: <http://www.fema.gov/eastest/>

Kenner's Office of Emergency Management, along with Parish and State emergency preparedness officials, and FEMA, encourage the public to use this event as a reminder that everyone should establish an emergency kit and emergency plan for themselves, their families, and businesses. Visit [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov) for more information about how to prepare for and stay informed about what to do in the event of an actual emergency.

For Kenner-specific information on how to sign up for local / regional emergency alert systems, emergency preparedness materials, business continuity planning, evacuation planning, and information on homeland security related subjects, please visit the City of Kenner Emergency Preparedness webpage at: [http://www.kenner.la.us/section\\_6\\_77.asp](http://www.kenner.la.us/section_6_77.asp).