### WATCHES & WARNINGS

A WATCH is issued by the Storm Predictions Center in Norman, OK, to indicate when and where severe thunderstorms and tornados are possible and most likely to occur. Everyone in or near the WATCH area should be alert for signs of threatening weather and make preliminary plans for action if a WARNING is issued. A WARNING is issued by the National Weather Service in Wichita when the National Weather Service has received notification that a Tornado has been spotted or that the Doppler Radar indicates Thunderstorm circulation, which can spawn a tornado.

IF THE WARNING SIRENS ARE SOUNDING, IT IS OUR STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT YOU **SEEK SHELTER IMMEDIATELY!** AND LISTEN TO THE RADIO OR TV FOR FURTHER WEATHER INFORMATION.

## ADOPT A SIREN PROGRAM

The Adopt a Siren Program aims to promote community engagement and education of the area's outdoor warning siren system. This program encourages people to be proactive in their emergency preparedness efforts and stay informed about local emergency alerts and warnings. The goal is to contribute to a more resilient and prepared community.

Program Goals:

- Increase community engagement and education of the outdoor warning siren system.
- Encourage citizens to become proactive in monitoring the functionality of outdoor warning systems and preparing for severe weather.
- Establish a network of volunteers who can assist in emergency preparedness efforts.





#### SIREN PROTOCOLS & PROCEDURES

Sirens in Salina and the surrounding communities (Assaria, Brookville, Kipp, New Cambria, Falun & Smolan) will only be sounded when one or both of the following conditions exist:

 When a Tornado Warning has been issued for Saline County by the National Weather Service Office in Wichita and/or
When a SkyWarn/trained storm spotter, local law enforcement officer, or fire personnel reports SIGHTING a funnel cloud or tornado.

Sirens will only be activated for the communities that are threatened. (If a tornado is approaching Brookville, the sirens in Salina, Smolan, Assaria, and New Cambria would not necessarily be sounded.

The sirens can be activated from either Emergency Management or from the City of Salina Emergency Communications 911 Center (Dispatch).

# SIREN FACTS

The sirens are designed and intended to be outdoor warning devices ONLY and their sound may not penetrate a structure because of the distance from the siren; background noise levels within the structure; and other factors such as wind speed and direction, obstruction (trees and buildings) present in the sound path, and changes in terrain. The planning range for the effectiveness of the warning signals at a normal 70 decibels for the residential area is approximately 5,120 feet.

Sirens will not be used for an "All Clear" signal. Tune to local TV or radio stations for information and instructions. Wichita Weather Service will extend, cancel, or allow the warning to expire. This information will be relayed to local radio stations.

To learn more about the Outdoor Warning Sirens and Adopt a Siren Program visit: **https://bit.ly/sacosirens**  For location of county sirens scan below or visit: https://bit.ly/sacosirenmap.

#### CITY OF SALINA SIREN COVERAGE



