

## **Weather Siren Activation Frequently Asked Questions**

1. What triggers the siren activation by DCC staff?
  - a. A teletype from the National Weather Service (NWS) issuing a severe thunderstorm warning or a tornado warning.
  - b. An alert received via a weather radio with National weather Service announcement.
  - c. A request from the local agency to sound the sirens.
  - d. Local media advising of the advancing weather conditions.
  
2. Does the DCC always set off the sirens for the entire county when only a portion of the county is in the storm path?

If the weather warning includes all of Dakota County, staff will activate the entire county. However, staff can set sirens off by zone as outlined on the attached map or by individual city. This would be determined by the information the DCC received from the NWS or by local responder.

3. Who actually activates the sirens at the DCC? Do the dispatchers perform this duty or do the supervisors?

While the dispatchers have training on siren activation it is the supervisor's responsibility.

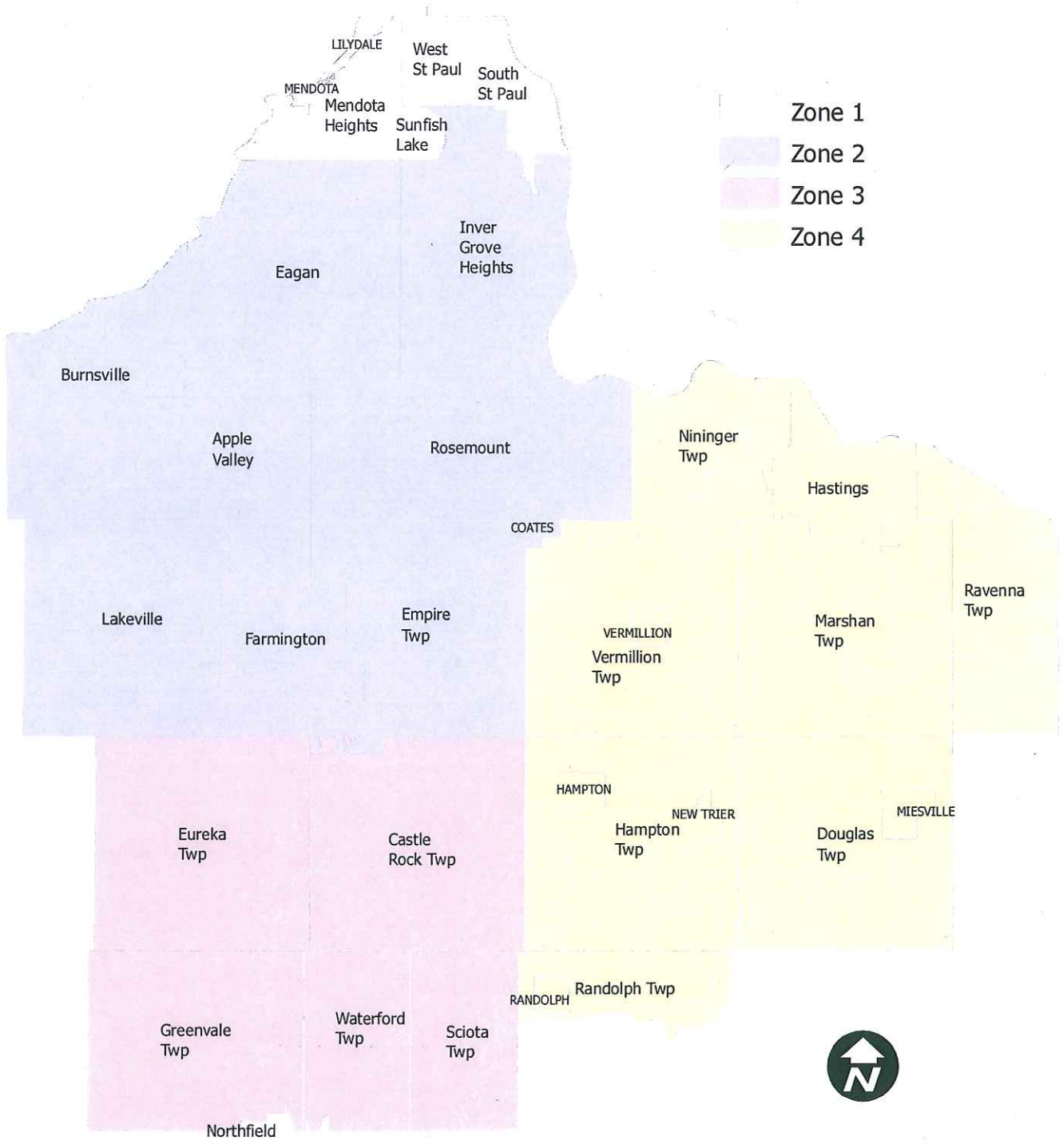
4. During a warning activation how long do the sirens run?

The sirens are designed to run for 3 minutes. They automatically shut off after 3 minutes.

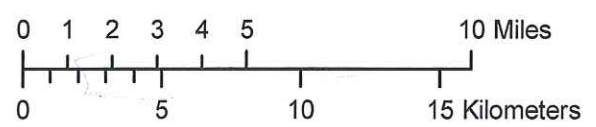
5. Can the DCC activate individual sirens?

At this time the DCC can activate sirens by city but cannot activate individual sirens.

# Dakota County Weather Zones



- Zone 1
- Zone 2
- Zone 3
- Zone 4



Copyright 2006, Dakota County  
 This drawing is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data located in various city, county, and state offices and other sources, affecting the area shown, and is to be used for reference purposes only. Dakota County is not responsible for inaccuracies herein contained. If discrepancies are found, please contact this office.