

State of Rhode Island Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan

August 2017



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Promulgation Statement

The Emergency Alert System (EAS), is a national public warning system that requires TV and radio broadcasters, cable TV and wireless cable systems, satellite digital audio radio service providers, direct broadcast satellite service providers and wireline video service providers to offer to the President the communications capability to address the American public during a national emergency. The system also may be used by state and local authorities to deliver important emergency information such as AMBER (missing children) alerts and emergency weather information targeted to a specific area.

The EAS allows authorized state authorities to promptly distribute important local emergency information. A state emergency manager can use the EAS to broadcast a warning from one or more major radio stations in a particular state. EAS equipment in other radio and television stations, as well as in cable television systems in that state, can automatically monitor and rebroadcast the warning.

The State of Rhode Island EAS Plan, hereinafter referred to as the *EAS Plan*, is designed to guide broadcasters and all other EAS participants to determine monitoring assignments, EAS codes, guidance for message originators and any other elements of the EAS which are unique to this state. The *EAS Plan* was prepared by the Rhode Island Interoperable Communications Committee (ICC) in cooperation with the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency; the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Communications Commission; the National Weather Service (Taunton, MA); State and local officials; the Rhode Island Broadcasters Association; and the broadcasters, cable systems and Wireline video providers of Rhode Island.


The *Rhode Island Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan and Appendices* have been approved for implementation by:


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8/31/17
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8/24/17

Date

Record of Changes

Change Number	Section	Date of Change	Individual Making Change	Description of Change
1	Appendix J: Rhode Island EAS Message Distribution, Authorized Sources for Activating EAS & Monitoring Assignments, pp. 48-49.	1/25/2018	Peter Gaynor	Removed reference to WBZ-FM (98.5) in PEP (in tables, graphic and text).

Record of Distribution

Date of Delivery	Number of Copies Delivered	Method of Delivery	Name, Title, and Agency/Organization of Receiver
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Office of the Governor and Executive Staff
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Director, Department of Administration (RIDOA)
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Chief Information Officer (RIDoIT)
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Center for Emergency Preparedness and Response (CEPR), Department of Health
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Commissioner of the Rhode Island Department of Public Safety (DPS)
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Superintendent of Rhode Island State Police (RISP)
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Director, Rhode Island E911
	1	.pdf / E-mail	The Adjutant General of the Rhode Island National Guard (RING)
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (RIDPUC)
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Rhode Island Interoperable Communications Committee (ICC)

	1	.pdf / E-mail	President, Rhode Island Broadcasters Association
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Meteorologist in Charge, National Weather Service, Taunton, MA
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission
	1	.pdf / E-mail	FEMA Region I, IT Branch Chief Regional Emergency Communications Coordinator
	1	.pdf / E-mail	Region 19 (Chairperson), Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications
	1	.pdf / E-mail	DHS, Office of Emergency Communications Regional Coordination Program (Region I)

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The *EAS Plan* outlines the organization and implementation of the State of Rhode Island Emergency Alert System and provides guidelines for broadcasters, cable operators and all other EAS participants to determine:

- Mandated and optional monitoring assignments;
- EAS codes to be used;
- Guidance for message originators; and
- Other additional elements of the EAS which are unique to this state.

This plan is an adjunct to the FCC EAS Rules (47 C.F.R. 11), and is not meant to be a summary, in whole or in part, of those rules.

In this plan, EAS participants are defined as:

- Analog radio broadcast stations including AM, FM, and Low-power FM (LPFM) stations;
- Digital audio broadcasting (DAB) stations, including digital AM, FM, and Low-power FM stations;
- Analog Class A television stations, including LPTV stations;
- Digital television (DTV) broadcast stations, including digital Class A and digital LPTV stations;
- Analog cable systems;
- Digital cable systems, which are defined for purposes of this part only as the portion of a cable system that delivers channels in digital format to subscribers at the input of a Unidirectional Digital Cable Product or other navigation device;
- Wireline video systems;
- Wireless cable systems, which may consist of Broadband Radio Service (BRS), or Educational Broadband Service (EBS) stations;
- Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) services, as defined in 47 CFR 25.701(a) (including certain Ku-band Fixed-Satellite Service Direct to Home providers);
- Satellite Digital Audio Radio Service (SDARS), as defined in 47 CFR 25.201;
- Participating broadcast networks, cable networks and program suppliers; and
- Other entities and industries operating on an organized basis during emergencies at the National, State and local levels.

1.2 Scope

This *EAS Plan* applies to the Executive Branch of Rhode Island State government, but does not exclude inclusion of the Legislative and Judicial Branches, as well as quasi-public organizations and private partners.

1.3 Goals and Objectives

The EAS program is formulated around two distinct time frames: Preparedness and Response.

- Preparedness: activities that should be implemented prior to the initiation of the EAS.
- Response: the real time activation of EAS.

The following Operational Objectives must be accomplished to comply with the FCC EAS regulations and to implement an EAS program to successfully alert Rhode Island's citizens and visitors.

- **Preparedness Objectives**

1. Broadcasters, Cable Operators, and State and Local Emergency Managers must become familiar with the EAS.
2. Local Primary 1 and 2 Station Broadcasters, and State and Local Emergency Managers must conduct or participate in the Required Weekly Test (RWT) of the EAS as established by the RI ICC.
3. Local Primary 1 and 2 Station Broadcasters, and State and Local Emergency Managers must conduct or participate in Required Monthly Test (RMT) of the EAS as established by RIEMA.
4. Operational Area Committee shall coordinate activities of the EAS with broadcasters, cable operators, National Weather Service (NWS), and local and state emergency management agencies.
5. Local Primary 1 and 2 Station Broadcasters participate in exercises with local and state emergency management agencies.
6. Local Primary 1 and 2 Station Broadcasters, RI ICC, and Local and State Emergency Managers must orient the public in the use of the EAS.

- **Response Objectives**

1. NWS or Local or State Emergency Management shall activate the system as quickly as possible upon becoming aware of an emergency/disaster event.
2. Local Primary 1(LP 1) stations and Local Primary 2 (LP 2) stations must continuously monitor a minimum of two EAS sources.
3. Broadcasters, Cable Operators, and State and Local Emergency Managers should participate in and support the use of the EAS during real events.
4. Broadcasters, Cable Operators, and State and Local Emergency Managers should critique the use of the EAS after real events.
5. The State of Rhode Island Interoperable Communications Committee (ICC) and Operation Area Committees shall modify State and Operational Area EAS Plans based on the results of real-time EAS activations.

1.4 Relationship to the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)

This document complies with the requirements of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, previously known as the State Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Users of this document are expected to be familiar with the CEMP. The *EAS Plan* is an integral

component of alert and notification, communications, emergency public information, and warning.

1.5 Authority

This plan is consistent with the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and is considered to be a supplement to the National Emergency Alert System Plan. Authorities include:

Federal

- Title 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i) and (o), 303(r), 524(g) and 606;
- 47 CFR, Part 11, Federal Communications Commission Rules and Regulations;
 - Note: 47 CFR, Part 11, was amended November 2, 2007. Portions of this state plan have been updated to incorporate the changes.
- Part 73, FCC Regulations (Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; The Federal Communications Commission's "EAS Checklist"), Subpart G; and
- NUREG 0654, Federal Emergency Management Agency, establishes emergency notification requirements for Nuclear Power Plants.

1.6 Logistics Support & Resource Requirements

The Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) will coordinate all logistical support and resource requirements necessary to implement and track the State's Emergency Management plans.

2.0 Situation and Assumptions

2.1. Situation

Originally, EAS was created to give the President of the United States the capability to relay information to the public immediately at the national, state and local levels during an emergency. The EAS may be used to provide the heads of state and local government, or their designated representatives, with a means of emergency communication with the public in their area.

In 2006, President George W. Bush signed Executive Order 13407 ordering the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a new program to integrate and modernize the nation's existing population warning systems. During an emergency, alert and warning officials need to provide the public with life-saving information quickly. The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) is a modernization and integration of the nation's alert and warning infrastructure and will save time when time matters most, protecting life and property.

Federal, State, territorial, tribal, and local alerting authorities can use IPAWS and integrate local systems that use Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) standards with the IPAWS infrastructure. IPAWS provides public safety officials with an effective way to alert and warn the public about serious emergencies using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, and other public alerting systems from a single interface.

2.2. Assumptions

1. An incident within or affecting Rhode Island may threaten lives and/or property if warning is not provided;
2. The need for warnings differs from the need for public information based on the immediacy and potential for life-saving actions;
3. A single warning dissemination system is not capable of effectively warning everyone in the State;
4. The *EAS Plan* shall be utilized regardless of emergency/disaster event type;
5. The success of the EAS depends solely upon the cooperation among the broadcast industry, cable television industry, National Weather Service, and emergency management officials to receive, broadcast, and re-broadcast emergency messages;
6. The *EAS Plan* must reflect the philosophy and content of the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan;
7. The *EAS Plan* must be consistent with the EAS process outlined in the State's Ingestion Pathway Plan;
8. The *EAS Plan* shall be used as a guide for the activation of the Emergency Alert System in the State of Rhode Island;
9. The success of the EAS depends entirely upon the cooperation among the Broadcast Industry, the Cable Television Industry, the National Weather Service, the Rhode Island State Police, and the Rhode Island Emergency Management Officials at the State level – to originate, receive, broadcast, and re-broadcast emergency messages;
10. Each of the optional "Local EAS Operational Area's" EAS Plans must be consistent with the philosophy and operations of the Rhode Island *EAS Plan*;
11. The *EAS Plan* assumes all participants have been trained in the activation of the Emergency Alert System and are familiar with FCC EAS Rules;
12. The Rhode Island's ICC recognizes that broadcasters and cable operators rely on "Air-Time" to maintain business continuity and the EAS use of "Air-Time" is a limited and qualified commodity;
13. Therefore, the Rhode Island *EAS Plan* requires that all EAS originating agencies must discern if an actual emergency meets the required threshold of an "EAS life-threatening and time sensitive emergency event affecting a wide area" – before activation of the Rhode Island EAS network is authorized; and
14. If an emergency event does not reach the afore noted threshold - the origination Agency will not activate EAS but will instead use the messaging feature of the CodeRED Mass Notification system to relay important information to the public by station personnel. The

origination Agency will ensure to use a CodeRED distribution list similar to that of the Amber Alert distribution list that includes all RI Broadcasters.

3.0 Execution

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a one-to-many emergency public information distribution system, delivered from thoroughly hardened sources in most cases. EAS can be functional and robust when many one-to one systems such as internet and cell phones are down or compromised by volume.

With the EAS system, emergency services agencies have a valuable tool in gaining direct access to the public through broadcasters and cable operators. However, if it is not used prudently, there is danger of destroying the effectiveness of this tool.

Broadcasters, cable operators, and the public expect that the EAS will be used only for sudden, unpredictable, or unforeseen events that pose an immediate threat to public health or safety, the nature of which precludes advance notification or warning. In many cases, as for example with weather-related events such as winter storms, modern technology and standard news-dissemination practices provide ample notice to the public, thereby precluding the need to issue an emergency alert.

3.1 Concept of Operations

3.1.1 The National, State, and Local EAS: Participation and Priorities

National EAS Participation

The EAS is part of a national network that enables the President to address the American people during national emergencies. When not in use by the President, FCC regulations permit the EAS to be used by state and local authorities on a voluntary basis. All Participating National (PN) EAS participants will carry the Presidential message. EAS participants must transmit a Required Weekly Test (RWT) and once a month they must re-transmit the Required Monthly Test (RMT) within 60 minutes of receipt. These actions are required by EAS participants. EAS participants should refer to the FCC's EAS regulations for unique requirements concerning EAS equipment. In addition, EAS participants are also required to be able to receive any alert activation with the event codes "NIC" or "NPT".

State and Local EAS Participation

Participation in the State and/or Local Area EAS is voluntary for all EAS participants. However, any EAS participants in Rhode Island electing to participate in the State and/or Local Area EAS must follow the procedures found in this Plan.

Conditions of EAS Participation

Broadcasters who participate in the Rhode Island EAS program must agree to adhere to the following responsibilities:

- Follow the procedures and policies found in this plan.

- Have a fully functional encoder and/or decoder box. Participating EAS stations are urged to place their encoder and/or decoder boxes in “Automatic Relay” mode for incoming messages containing mandatory local event codes listed in *Appendix M: Authorized Originator & EAS Event Codes*, on page 53 or as determined by the Rhode Island ICC but do hold the right to program certain codes for manual relay. Automatic transmission must include a permanent record that contains at a minimum the following information: originator, event, location and valid time period of the message [§11.51].
- Operate at full wattage capacity or notify the Rhode Island ICC Chairperson when they operate at less than full wattage.
- Broadcast emergency notifications message or interrupt programming to announce emergency alerts to the public within one hour of receiving emergency notification message from origination source.
- Use EAS only in short duration during life-or-death events and to use multiple times only when significant new information needs to be disseminated to the public.
- Participate in the required monthly test (RMT) for statewide EAS testing. Each month, every local primary broadcast station must re-transmit a RMT within 60 minutes of receipt within their EAS decoder. All testing should be documented in the station EAS log book.
- Participate in the required weekly test for local EAS testing. All testing should be documented in the EAS log book.
- Monitor their assigned local primary one and local primary two stations and the closest NWS weather radio frequency. For full participation in the Rhode Island *EAS Plan*, each radio and television station and cable system with city of license in the state should monitor their LP-1, LP-2 and local NWS station.
- National level alert messages must be carried by all radio and television stations and cable systems or that station or system must go off the air. Participation by broadcasters in local, state-level and national weather service activation is voluntary. If carried, the message must be carried in its entirety with no changes.
- Radio stations shall fulfill the audio portion of an EAS activation by carrying the entire audio feed from their LP-1 or LP-2 station. Stations are strongly urged to place their EAS encoder/decoders in full automatic relay for incoming messages. Daytime only stations receiving an activation message overnight must, upon arrival, immediately broadcast the alert if the time stamp for that emergency is still valid. If the time stamp for the issued warning or alert has expired, then the station need only note in their log that the message was received.
- Television stations shall fulfill the video portion of EAS activation by transmitting a visual message containing the Originator, Event, Location and the valid time period as contained in the EAS digital header signal of an EAS message. If the message is a video crawl, it shall

be displayed at the top of the television screen or where it will not interfere with other visual messages. FCC §11.51(D).

- Cable systems with 10,000 or more subscribers shall fulfill the video portion of an EAS activation by transmitting the visual EAS message on all channels. The visual message shall contain the Originator, Event, Location and the valid time period as contained in the EAS digital header signal of an EAS message. If the message is a video crawl, it shall be displayed at the top of the subscriber's television screen or where it will not interfere with other visual messages. (FCC §11.51, G-3).
- The Rhode Island ICC recognizes many local Cable Television Franchise Authorities have agreements in place with local cable companies to provide audio over-rides or similar emergency alerting capabilities in addition to those required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This plan in no way prohibits any such agreements.
- Participation in this plan shall not prohibit broadcasters from exercising their independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation without undue penalty. Broadcast stations and cable systems transmitting EAS emergency communications shall have conferred rebroadcast authority. Management of each broadcast station and cable system may exercise discretion regarding the broadcast of emergency information and instructions to the general public. This authority is provided by FCC Rules and Regulations [§11.54d]. EAS is voluntary for emergency notifications originated by state and local agencies for the broadcasters. Under FCC regulation, however, broadcast stations must either carry the presidential emergency notification or sign off air while the alert is carried.
- Acceptance of or participation in this EAS Plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control, and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Broadcast stations, cable systems and all EAS participants originating EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. The concept of management of each EAS participant to exercise discretion regarding the broadcast of emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC Rules and Regulations.

EAS Priorities

EAS participants are reminded that the EAS Priorities are as follows:

1. National EAS Messages;
2. Local Area EAS Messages;
3. State EAS Messages; and
4. Messages from the National Information Center (NIC) [These are follow-up messages after a National EAS Activation].

EAS Participant Designations

These are the FCC's EAS Designations, reflecting the EAS status of every EAS participant. Consult the Appendices of this EAS Plan to determine your EAS Designation.

- **NP (National Primary)**. Source of National EAS messages. These sources will be monitored according to the priorities set by the State of Rhode ICC.
- **SP (State Primary)**. Source of state EAS messages. These sources may also relay National EAS messages. These sources will be identified and monitored according to the priorities set by the State of Rhode ICC.
- **LP (Local Primary)**. Source of local EAS messages. These sources may also relay National and State EAS messages. These sources will be identified and monitored according to the priorities set by the State of Rhode ICC.
- **PN (Participating National)**. Almost all EAS participants are designated as "PN". These participants deliver all levels of EAS messages to the general public.

Primary and Secondary Delivery EAS

The task of this *EAS Plan* is to determine a primary and secondary delivery method for each level of EAS alert. For EAS participants electing to monitor only the two required assigned sources, two paths for each alert are provided where possible. EAS participants can also add optional sources for EAS messages. Consult *Appendix J: Rhode Island EAS Message Distribution, Authorized Sources for Activating EAS & Monitoring Assignments* on page 49 to determine the two required and the optional sources that each EAS participant should monitor.

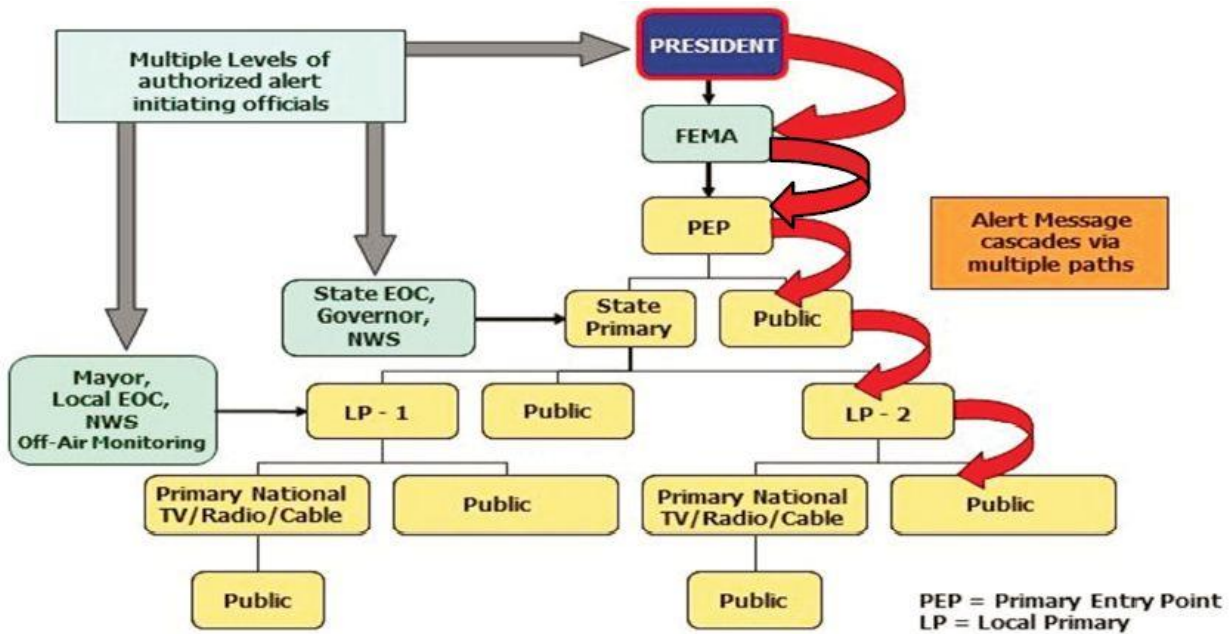
Your Part in Completing the System

The Rhode Island ICC sees the EAS as a growing and evolving system. The basic entry points for EAS messages are the EAS sources. Under CAP, future alert sources may become available.

3.1.2 System Requirements, Description & Activation

System Requirements

The President requires a reliable means for communicating with the American public on short notice during periods of national crisis or major emergency in order to provide reassurance and direction regarding response and recovery. The President must be able to address the nation on AM and FM radio, as well as television and cable television audio, within ten minutes of an activation notice. In addition, the President must be able to address the nation on live television, audio and video, upon arrival at a designated television studio. This capability must exist under a variety of conditions such as before, during and after the situation or attack.



System Description

When activated, the national-level EAS consists of a nationwide network of voluntary communications entities. The system is designed to maintain communications with the public in the event of an attack, a threat of war, a state of public peril, disaster or other national emergency. Once activated, the national level EAS remains available for the dissemination of high priority national programming. These capabilities must also be available to any Presidential successors.

Each EAS source assumes the responsibility for serving a specifically designated area known as a local area. Serving the local area involves disseminating local area instructions, news and information, Presidential messages, governors’ messages, state information, national programming and news.

System Activation

The President of the United States has the sole authority to activate the national-level EAS message. The following sequence activates the national-level EAS:

Presidential Decision - A Presidential decision is made to activate the EAS; it is then passed to the White House Communications Agency for implementation.

White House Contacts FEMA - The White House Communication Agency then contacts the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with EAS implementation instructions.

FEMA Relays the Message via EAS - Using a network, FEMA relays the Emergency Action Notice (EAN) order information to the communications industry. FEMA transmits the EAN to the National Primary (NP) broadcast entities using the EAS

system (The NP in the State of Rhode Island is WWLI-FM (105.1) in the City Providence).

Note: Voice circuits are in place for EAS programming at all times and can be originated at FEMA.

Rhode Island EAS Distributes Message - The message will be relayed to the state relay stations for retransmission throughout the Rhode Island EAS network. All EAS receivers are factory programmed to handle national EAN. EAS messages with the EAN event code must be transmitted immediately. Automatic interruption of programming is required when facilities are unattended. A broadcast source that has elected to become a non-participating national must remove its signal from the air during a national activation. All other stations must carry the activation message.

Message Terminated - At the conclusion of an incident when the national-level EAS is no longer needed, a termination order is issued. At the conclusion of the EAS program, the White House Communication Agency (WHCA) Trip Officer issues a termination order over the program circuitry. FEMA then transmits an Emergency Action Termination message. The termination order is then relayed along the EAS network to all EAS participants.

Activation Procedures for the Emergency Alert System

National Activation Procedures

All national activations will be issued from the White House and will be transmitted to the Rhode Island primary entry point, WWLI-FM (105.1) in the City Providence. The message will be relayed to the state relay stations for retransmission throughout the RI EAS network. All EAS receivers are factory-programmed to handle a national Emergency Action Notification (EAN). EAS messages with the EAN event code must be transmitted immediately [§11.52]. Automatic interruption of programming is required when facilities are unattended [§11.52]. For additional information concerning national alert activation procedures see *Appendix O, Guidance for EAS Participants in Programming EAS Decoders*.

State Activation Procedures

The following sources are authorized to activate state or local EAS messages in Rhode Island:

- Governor of Rhode Island
- Director, Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
- RIEMA State Warning Officer
- Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police
- Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency Duty Officer (RDO) or State Warning Officer (SWO);
- National Weather Service representative
- Local primary one and two radio stations

Once authorized to issue an EAS message, the RIEMA State Warning Officer will develop the appropriate message and format it into the EAS encoder/decoder for distribution statewide. All LP-1 and LP-2 stations will be alerted simultaneously through the CodeRED System, and the message will then be relayed throughout the RI EAS network.

Local Activation Procedures

In the event that a state, county or city emergency management official deems it necessary to disseminate emergency information to the general public for a localized life-threatening event or incident, that official should directly contact:

- a) The National Weather Service (NWS) office serving that area and request that NWS issue an EAS message over NOAA weather radio, or
- b) The RIEMA State Warning Officer will contact the State EOC and request the issuance of an EAS message, or
- c) The local area LP-1 or LP-2 and request that an EAS alert as civil emergency message be issued.

The emergency management official should provide text information about the hazard and the appropriate response to the NWS office for immediate transmission. Local emergency management officials should contact their local NWS office to set up procedures to clarify and facilitate the process. Alternately, local and county emergency management officials may contact their or the Rhode Island State Emergency Operations Center to request an EAS activation detailing the emergency and appropriate response of the public.

Rhode Island Child Abduction Activation Procedures

The EAS also is used to transmit Child Abduction Emergency (CAE) alerts. Commonly known as AMBER Alerts, these messages must originate from local law enforcement and be channeled through the Rhode Island State Police (RISP). If the primary originator for such messages, the RISP (located at Headquarters in Scituate) is unable to originate transmission, the RISP will request assistance from RIEMA to originate the AMBER alert. The RISP will provide detailed information to RIEMA who will then activate the Emergency Alert System. If RIEMA is incapable of initiating the alert, the NWS will be notified to activate the AMBER alert.

The message may require statewide distribution and a three-hour duration unless the RISO designates a more specific broadcast area or a shorter or longer duration. Follow-up CAE messages may be issued via EAS when significant additional information becomes available. No termination of event notice will be issued via the EAS, but the NCCMP will post a message on the State Warning Officer for distribution to local primary broadcasters.

Weather-Related Activation Procedures

The vast majority of weather-related EAS messages are originated by the National Weather Service via the NOAA Weather Radio. These alerts are also disseminated via the NOAA Weather Wire Service and the Associated Press. An EAS weather alert received via one of

these networks shall constitute valid authorization for a broadcaster or cable operator to originate an EAS weather alert warning if that is the level of alert that has been declared by the National Weather Service.

Local stations should carry or broadcast information provided by the NWS concerning weather events. Each station's management makes the decision to activate for other weather warnings or watches. It should also be understood that nothing in this plan prohibits any station from initiating its own EAS announcement originating from observations of its own personnel. If a station decides to self-originate, they accept full responsibility of any origination after effects.

3.1.3 Guidance for Originators of EAS Alerts

Guidance for National Weather Service Personnel

NWS personnel are issuing EAS weather alerts via NOAA Weather Radio using the SAME Codes (identical to the EAS codes). NWS procedures include the SAME Codes, the NWS 1050 Hz Alert Tone, the audio alert script, and the End of Message (EOM) Code. Considering that NOAA Weather Radio is being envisioned as an "All Hazards" network, alerts for non-weather emergencies may also be relayed by NWS personnel. In the event that NWS personnel relay non-weather EAS Alerts, the same procedures will be used. EAS equipment will automatically replace the NWS 1050 Hz alert tone with the EAS 853 Hz and 960 Hz signal upon retransmission.

Guidance for Emergency Management Personnel

Appendix J: Rhode Island EAS Message Distribution, Authorized Sources for Activating EAS & Monitoring Assignments lists the EAS sources of alerts in Rhode Island. These sources need to comply with the procedures in this EAS Plan so that their alerts are delivered effectively and accurately to the affected populace. After the EAS alert is received by the populace, they will probably search for additional information and instructions concerning the alert.

Guidance for State-wide Emergency Messages

In Rhode Island, all alerts shall be issued by the RIEMA or RISP.

3.2 Coordinating Instructions

- A.** Federal, State, territorial, tribal and local alerting authorities will use IPAWS and integrate local systems that use Common Alerting Protocol standards with the IPAWS infrastructure. IPAWS provides public safety officials with an effective way to alert and warn the public about serious emergencies using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, and other public alerting systems from a single interface.
- B.** For all EAS participants, FCC rules require that an EAS Handbook "must be located at normal duty positions or EAS equipment locations when an operator is required to be on duty and be immediately available to staff responsible for authenticating

messages and initiating actions.” For your convenience, EAS Handbooks and rules may be downloaded at: <http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/services/eas/>.

- C. Emergency services personnel are urged to keep in mind that some broadcasters and cable operators keep their EAS decoders set on Automatic mode. Unattended operation of broadcast or cable facilities means there is no one available to screen an EAS message and decide whether it should be aired, and are therefore required to have their decoders set to Automatic mode. They are depending on you to send EAS alerts only for very serious, short fuse emergencies. Should the Emergency Alert System be triggered for a frivolous event or as a result of operator error, public confidence in the system will be negatively affected.
- D. FCC Rules prohibit the transmission of EAS codes or attention signal in any circumstance other than an actual emergency or FCC authorized test.
- E. Emergency services personnel must also remember that broadcasters and cable operators participate in the state and local level EAS on a strictly voluntary basis. No one can force them to carry local or state EAS alerts. It is imperative that State Agencies responsible for originating alerts ensure that personnel designated to operate EAS equipment and issue alerts be properly trained in the operation of the equipment which they will be expected to operate as well as proper procedures for originating such alerts. Maintaining a good relationship with local broadcasters and cable operators is critical to ensuring their support during an actual emergency and having properly trained personnel is paramount to the success of this plan.

4.0 Functional Roles & Responsibilities

4.1 Executive Branch

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA)

RIEMA’s mission is to reduce the loss of life and property for both natural and man-made incidents by utilizing an all hazards approach to prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation while providing leadership, assistance, and support to regional, state, local and tribal entities. RIEMA is responsible for operating and maintaining the SEOC and associated emergency communications systems and equipment. The agency will schedule, maintain and test State communications, warning and notifications systems based on the published plan. Part of this plan is the regular testing and maintenance of emergency power equipment.

4.2 Responsibilities of Support Agency(s)

Rhode Island Interoperable Communications Committee (ICC)

The Rhode Island ICC is the planning group that has developed this plan. Rhode Island ICC members can include the Chair; representatives of the National Weather Service (NWS);

FEMA; Broadcasters; Cable and Wireline Video Provider system operators; and any other representatives so designated by the committee membership.

5.0 Plan Maintenance

5.1 Plan Maintenance

All plans are maintained in accordance with the *Plans Standardization and Maintenance Policy*.

5.2 Training and Exercise

The State's Emergency Management Training and Exercise Program aims to test, assess and improve the State's preparedness and resiliency. By assessing preparedness against a set of common preparedness priorities, the Program improves preparedness and resiliency and affects policy, priorities and fiscal decisions. RIEMA will train to and exercise elements of this policy alone or as part of a larger exercise. As part of the planning review and revision process, all corrective actions from training and exercise events will be collected and analyzed. This corrective action process allows RIEMA staff to identify, address, and correct problems within a plan. This process may involve the revision of planning assumptions, operational concepts, organizational tasks, or instruction based on information from areas where deficiencies may exist such as exercises, AARs, lessons learned, and audits. Training resources are available through FEMA's Emergency Management Institute. Specific training course include:

- IS-247a IPAWS Alerting Authority Online Training
- IS-248 Online Course for the American People
- IS-251 IPAWS for Alerting Authorities Best Practices

6.0 Administration

6.1 Required Testing of the Emergency Alert System

All broadcasters, subject cable operators, and the National Weather Service are required to transmit required weekly tests (RWT) and required monthly tests (RMT). The sole exception applies to Low power television stations that do not originate local programming and TV translators are not required to have EAS equipment.

6.1.1 Required Weekly Tests

Transmission

All broadcasters, subject cable operators, and the National Weather Service must initiate a required weekly test (RWT) once a week at random days and times except for the week of the monthly test. The RI SEOC and RISP will simultaneously transmit a RWT to each LP-1 and

LP-2 on a staggered schedule each Wednesday. There are no time-of-day restrictions. This is a 10.5-second test, consisting only of the EAS header and end-of-message codes.

Broadcast stations are encouraged to vary the broadcast of the RWT in an effort to expose all station operators both full time and part time to the procedures of conducting an EAS test.

Reception

All broadcasters and subject cable operators receiving a RWT from one of their monitored sources must log receipt of this test. No further action is required. Daytime only stations receiving an overnight RWT must log the test received in the appropriate manner the following morning.

Scripts and Formats

Required weekly tests are initiated by the individual broadcast stations without any oversight by government agencies other than the FCC. There is no script used for the standard RWT. It is recommended that stations use an opening and closing script announcing the test.

An example of an optional script for RWT is:

“This is a required weekly test of the emergency alert system. [Insert tones here] This concludes the required weekly test.”

RWTs initiated by the National Weather Service follow a NWS script. The entire standard test takes 10 seconds and should be formatted as follows:

- One-second pause
- Send EAS header
- One-second pause
- 1050 hertz attention signal for 8 seconds (NWS only)
- NWS Script (NWS only)
- Send EAS end-of-message code
- One-second pause
- Resume normal programming

6.1.2 Required Monthly Test

Transmission

Required monthly tests (RMTs) may be initiated by Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, the National Weather Service, the Rhode Island State Police and any LP-1 or LP-2 according to the schedule distributed by the State EAS Coordinator. Upon receipt of the test message, broadcasters and cable operators should follow procedures outlined in the “Reception and Re-transmission” section below. These tests shall always use the Event Code “RMT”. After considering the programming needs of broadcast, TV and cable operations, the Rhode Island ICC, in coordination with WWLI-FM, will publish a required monthly test (RMT) schedule in the fall of the preceding year. Per guidance contained in §11.61 of the

Code of Federal Regulations, the Rhode Island ICC has determined that on even numbered months, the required monthly tests will run between local sunset and 8:30 a.m., while on odd numbered months, the tests will run between 8:30 a.m. and local sunset. Exceptions may be made for RMTs conducted in conjunction with Severe Weather Awareness Week. In late February or March during Severe Weather Week, NWS or RIEMA may conduct an annual statewide severe weather drill. An RMT may be issued with the audio referring to the statewide severe weather.

Reception and Re-Transmission

All broadcast stations and subject cable systems should retransmit the RMT exactly as received and must retransmit this test within 60 minutes of receiving it [§11.61]. For daytime-only stations receiving a night time RMT, this test must be re-transmitted within 60 minutes of the station's sign-on. Transmission of the RMT takes the place of the required weekly test (RWT). Times should be logged for both the receipt and re-transmission of the RMT. Broadcast and cable management should impress upon their staff that re-transmission of this test is mandatory. Failing to retransmit the RMT within 60 minutes of its reception is a violation of FCC regulations.

Scripts and Formats

Originators of the required monthly tests shall use the format outlined below. All other broadcasters and subject cable operators will receive the test in this format and must retransmit it in the same format within 60 minutes of receipt.

RMT Format and Script

- Send the EAS header code. (Use the RMT event code; use 120-minute duration)
- One second pause
- Send the two-tone attention signal for 8 seconds
- Transmit the following test script:

"This is a test of the Rhode Island Emergency Alert System. This is only a test. Broadcasters in cooperation with local, state and national authorities have developed this system to provide the public with important emergency information, should the need arise. This concludes the monthly test of the Rhode Island Emergency Alert System."

- One second pause; and
- Send EAS end-of-message code.

Optional Test Introduction and Wrap-ups

In addition to the required elements in the RMT format, broadcasters and cable systems may elect to add an optional introduction to the test and/or an optional test wrap-up. When a test is received, the station could run the optional introduction followed by a one-second pause, retransmit the RMT as outlined above, run the test wrap-up, and then return to regular programming. The content of the introduction and wrap-up is entirely up to the broadcasters and subject cable operators.

An example of an optional test introduction is:

“This station, in cooperation with national, state, and local officials, participates in the Emergency Alert System. The following is an EAS test.”

An example of an optional test wrap-up is:

“For information regarding the Emergency Alert System, contact this station or your local emergency management organization.”

NWS HazCollect Alerts

In June 2004, the NOAA Weather All Hazards Radio (NWR) network leadership signed an agreement to relay alerts from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regarding threats of a national, state, or regional level. This EAS Plan encourages participants to program their EAS units to relay these DHS alerts.

Updated EAS Alerts: 2007, NWR stations will begin participating in a second new program, called HazCollect. This program enables your local Emergency Management personnel to log onto a FEMA website and send an EAS message over your local NWR station. These alerts could use any of the 13 non-weather local emergency EAS Codes adopted by the FCC in 2002. In order to carry HazCollect alerts, these additional codes must be added to your EAS unit (some were already added in your DHS alert programming). HazCollect alerts will be reviewed by the Rhode Island ICC, similar to Amber Alerts, so we expect judicious use of these alerts. All Rhode Island SR and LP stations should program their EAS unit for these codes immediately. All other broadcasters and cable operators are strongly encouraged to do likewise. To ensure receiving these alerts, the Rhode Island ICC recommends that all broadcasters and cable operators monitor NWR directly, if not already doing so. Information on HazCollect can be found at: www.weather.gov/os/hazcollect.

7.0 Command & Control

The following sources are authorized to activate state or local EAS messages in Rhode Island:

- Governor of Rhode Island;
- Director, Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency;
- Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police;
- Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency Duty Officer (RDO) or State Warning Officer (SWO);
- National Weather Service representative; and
- Local primary one and two radio stations.

8.0 Emergency Management Program Elements

The *EAS Plan* adheres to the *2016 Emergency Management Standards* outlined by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). Specifically, the *EAS Plan* meets the criteria outlined in Chapter 4.7, Communications and Warning.

4.7: Communications and Warning

Overview

An Accredited Emergency Management Program has communications, alert and notification and warning plans that provide for using, maintaining, and augmenting the equipment necessary for efficient preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies/disasters.

4.7.1 The Emergency Management Program has a plan to communicate internally and externally with stakeholders (higher, laterally and subordinate) and emergency personnel. System interoperability has been addressed and the plan has been designed for the hazards identified in Standard 4.1.1 and requirements of the Program's potential operating environments. Communications systems support all components of the emergency operations and recovery plans, and includes redundancy to provide alternative means of communications in case of failure in primary system(s).

4.7.2 The Emergency Management Program has a plan to initiate, receive, and relay notifications to alert key decision makers and emergency personnel. The plan has been designed for the hazards identified in Standard 4.1.1 and requirements of the Program's potential operating environments. Notification systems support all components of the emergency operations and recovery plans, and includes redundancy to provide alternative means of notification in case of failure in primary system(s).

4.7.3 The Emergency Management Program has a plan to disseminate emergency alerts and warnings to the public potentially impacted by an actual or impending emergency and to communicate with the population within its jurisdiction. The plan has been designed for the hazards identified in Standard 4.1.1 and requirements of the Program's potential operating environments. Alert and warning systems include redundancy to provide alternative means of warning in case of failure in primary system(s). The plan addresses dissemination of alerts and warnings to vulnerable populations as defined by the Emergency Management Program.

4.7.4 Communications, notification, and alert and warning systems are tested on an established schedule, results documented and corrective actions addressed.

4.7.5 The Emergency Management Program has procedures for the operation of the communications, notification, and alert and warning systems. The procedures

address the hazards identified in Standard 4.1.1 and requirements of the Program’s potential operating environments and clearly delineate any decision-making processes or pre-determined criteria.

4.7.6 The Emergency Management Program has a method and schedule for evaluation, maintenance, and revision of the Plan(s) identified in Standards 4.7.1, 4.7.2, and 4.7.3 and the procedures identified in Standard 4.7.5.

9.0 References

EAS Rules (47 C.F.R. Part 11)

<http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=7f92df99c85594b40d3ef3b12a9f8ccf&mc=true&node=pt47.1.11&rgn=div5>

Integrated Public Alert & Warning System

<https://www.fema.gov/integrated-public-alert-warning-system>

10.0 Acronyms and Glossary

10.1 Acronyms

Abbreviation	Term
ADR	Administrative Message
AVW	Avalanche Warning
AVA	Avalanche Watch
CAE	Child Abduction Emergency
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CEM	Civil Emergency Message
CEMC	County Emergency Management Coordinator
CIV	Civil Authorities
CPG	Civil Preparedness Guides
DMA	Designated Market Area
DMIS	Disaster Management Interoperability Service
DMO	Practice Demo Warning
EAN	Emergency Action Notification
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EAS-AP	EAS Activation Point
EAT	Emergency Action Termination
ENDEC	Encoder/decoder
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOM	End-of-message
EWV	Extreme Wind Warning

FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FCC	Federal Communication Commission
FIPS	Federal Information Processing System Codes
FLA	Flood Watch
FLS	Flood Statement
FNF	Fixed Nuclear Facility
HLS	Hurricane Statement
HMW	Hazardous Material Warning
HWW	High Wind Warning
HWA	High Wind Watch
HUW	Hurricane Warning
HUA	Hurricane Watch
LAE	Local Area Emergency
LEW	Law Enforcement Warning
LAECC	Local Area Emergency Communications Committees
LPTV	Low power TV
LP1	Local Primary 1 (lead station)
LP2	Local Primary 2 (back-up station)
NIC	National Information Center
NMN	Network Message Notification
NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
NP	National Primary
NPT	National Periodic Test
NUW	Nuclear Power Plant Warning
NWR	NOAA Weather Radio
NWS	National Weather Service
PEP	Primary Entry Point stations
PN	Participating National
RHW	Radiological Hazard Warning
RI ICC	Rhode Island Interoperable Communications Committee
RIEMA	Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
RISP	Rhode Island State Police
RMT	Required Monthly Test
RWT	Required Weekly Test
SAME	Specific Area Message Encoder
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SP1	State Primary 1
SP2	State Primary 2. Backup to SP1
SPW	Shelter in Place Warning
SMW	Special Marine Warning
SPS	Special Weather Statement
SR	State Relay Station
SRN	State Relay Network
SVA	Severe Thunderstorm Watch
SVR	Severe Thunderstorm Warning
SVS	Severe Weather Statement
TOA	Tornado Watch
TOE	911 Telephone Outage Emergency

TOR	Tornado Warning
TRA	Tropical Storm Watch
TRW	Tropical Storm Warning
TSA	Tsunami Watch
TSW	Tsunami Warning
SSW	Storm Surge Warning
SSA	Storm Surge Watch
SWP	State Warning Point
VOW	Volcano Warning
WHCA	White House Communication Agency
WRSAME	Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoder
WSA	Winter Storm Watch
WSW	Winter Storm Warning

10.2 Glossary

Activation - The initiation of the Emergency Alert System by transmission of the EAS codes.

ASCII - A standard set of text characters with numerical equivalents.

AMBER Alert - Common term for a Child Abduction Emergency.

Attention Signal - Eight seconds of two tones (853 and 960 Hz) used as an audio alert.

Authenticator Word Lists - A list of words used to substantiate authenticity of transmitter and receiver. The list is furnished by NCEM to all LP-1 and LP-2 stations, the seven National Weather Service offices with warning responsibilities in North Carolina, all local emergency management offices and others designated to request activation.

Authorization Letter - The official authorization letter, given by the FCC, for a broadcast station to go off the air during a national level activation of the Emergency Alert System.

Automatic Interruption - The automatic encoding and transmission of Emergency Alert System codes for pre-selected events.

Certification - An equipment authorization issued by the FCC based on representations and test data submitted by the applicant for equipment designated to be operated without individual license under Parts 15 and 18 of the rules.

Decoder (Emergency Alert System) - An electronic device used by Emergency Alert System participants to receive alerts and to translate the Emergency Alert System codes into a visual message.

Emergency Action Notification (EAN) - The message for national Emergency Alert System activation.

Emergency Action Termination (EAT) - The message for national Emergency Alert System termination.

Encoder (Emergency Alert System) - An electronic device used by Emergency Alert System participants to originate Emergency Alert System alerts by creating the Emergency Alert System codes for transmission to other participants and the public.

Encoder (Two-Tone) - An electronic device that produces the two-tone signal.

Endec Box - An electronic device capable of originating and receiving EAS alerts and translating EAS codes into a visual or audible message.

EOM (end-of-message) Code - In ASCII form 'NNNN', this burst of data, sent three times, signifies the end of an Emergency Alert System message and Emergency Alert System activation.

Event Codes - A three character ASCII code in the Emergency Alert System headers that denotes the type or cause of emergency event.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - One of the three federal agencies that administer the Emergency Alert System.

Federal Information Processing System Number (FIPS) - A five character ASCII code in the Emergency Alert System headers that represent those counties affected by an Emergency Alert System activation, as defined by the Federal Information Processing System that assigns each state and territory with their respective counties a five-digit number.

Header Signal - A single string of intelligent digital Emergency Alert System ASCII data that includes the originator, event, location, time period, and other basic information concerning an emergency.

Key Source - A source which is central to the dissemination of emergency alerts and information, such as National Primary, State Primary, State Relay or Local Primary broadcast stations or cable systems.

Local Primary (LP) - A source within an Emergency Alert System Local Area that is the primary source of Emergency Alert System programming for that area.

Location Code - An ASCII code in an Emergency Alert System header that specifies the location of an emergency utilizing the five-character Federal Information Processing System (FIPS) code of a state and county, and a sixth character to designate nine divisions of a county.

Monitoring Assignment - The off-air broadcast or cable sources of Emergency Alert System activations and programming as given in the FCC Mapbook and the state plan.

National Information Center (NIC) - A source of official federal government information.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) - One of the three federal agencies that participate in Emergency Alert System.

National Originator Codes - Originator codes required by the FCC.

National Periodic Test (NPT) - A test of National Primary Emergency Alert System sources.

National Primary (NP) - A primary source of Presidential or other national Emergency Alert System activations and programming, including broadcast stations involved with the PEP system and EAN Networks.

National Weather Service (NWS) - An operation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration directly responsible for issuing local weather-related emergency alerts and warnings in addition to day-to-day forecasts and other weather activities. Upon request by a local authority, the NWS will disseminate civil emergency messages.

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) - A service of the National Weather Service that provides to a local area continuous broadcasts of the latest weather information, weather-related emergency warnings and civil emergency EAS messages using one of seven VHF radio channels.

Operating Handbook - A document issued by the FCC that instructs broadcast station and cable personnel of the actions they must take during an activation of Emergency Alert System.

Participating National (PN) - Broadcast stations, cable systems, or MDS stations which monitor primary sources of Emergency Alert System programming and directly feed emergency alerts to the public.

Preselected Code - Broadcast stations, cable systems, or MDS stations which monitor primary sources of Emergency Alert System programming and directly feed emergency alerts to the public.

Primary Entry Point (PEP) - Key broadcast stations throughout the U.S. that together can provide national emergency information.

Protocol - A standard set of guidelines by which digital information encoded and decoded, including the common code structure, character set used, the sequence and timing of codes, and modulation technique used for radio transmission.

Program Priorities - The precedence of the information that must be transmitted during an Emergency Alert System activation, namely national, local, and state activations in that order.

Required Monthly Test (RMT) - A coordinated monthly test of Emergency Alert System operations involving the full receiving and transmission of Emergency Alert System codes, Attention Signal, Emergency Alert System test programming, and Emergency Alert System end-of-message (EOM) codes.

Required Weekly Test (RWT) - An independent weekly test of Emergency Alert System equipment only involving the decoding and encoding of Emergency Alert System header codes and end-of-message (EOM) codes.

Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) - Specific Area Message Encoding is the protocol used by NWS to encode the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and NOAA Weather Radio (NWR). NWR SAME provides (in a digital format) specific, timely information on the nature and location of a threat to the safety of those most immediately at risk from severe weather or other hazards. Its greatest value is to significantly improve the automatic selection and distribution of messages about events that threaten people and/or property.

SR-3 Station - Additional FM radio stations added to LP-1 and LP-2 distribution system to offer redundant relay points in daisy-chain.

State/Local Plan - A document that details monitoring assignments and actions to be taken in emergency activations, and other guidance for broadcasters and cable personnel in use of the Emergency Alert System. Each locality is responsible for maintaining a current local plan.

State Primary (SP) - A primary source of Emergency Alert System state programming which can originate with a Governor or designated representative, such as a state's emergency operations officer.

State Relay (SR) - An entity which receives and retransmits Emergency Alert System activations in a State Relay Network to assist in bringing a state activation to all Emergency Alert System Local Area of a state.

State Relay Network - A system of facilities used to distribute State Emergency Alert System activations and programming across a state.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Rhode Island Interoperable Communications Committee (ICC) Contact List

Rhode Island Interoperable Communications Committee (ICC)		
Name	Address / Contact Information	Organization
LTC Joseph Merrill	joseph.b.merrill.mil@mail.mil	RI National Guard

Chief James McLaughlin	james.mclaughlin@cox.net	RI Fire Chief's Association
Chief Leo Messier	lmessier@pvdairport.com	RI Police Chief's Association
Peter T. Gaynor (Chair)	peter.gaynor@ema.ri.gov	RI Emergency Management Agency
Nelson Pedro	npedro@lifespan.org	RI Level 1 Trauma Center
Dawn Lewis	dawnl@hari.org	Hospital Association of RI (HARI)
Joseph DelGiudice	jdelgiudice@providenceri.com	City of Providence Communications
Ralph Nahigian	commsdirector@northprovidenceri.gov	RISCON North Zone
Lt Scott Lessard	SLessard@northkingstown.org	RISCON South Zone
VACANT		RI State Police
Frank Floor	frank.floor@dem.ri.gov	RI Department of Environmental Management
Joseph Bucci	joseph.bucci@dot.ri.gov	RI Department of Transportation
Wally Falkowski	Wally.Falkowski@doc.ri.gov	RI Department of Corrections
VACANT		RI Department of Information Technology (DoIT)
Chris McGrath	chris.mcgrath@health.ri.gov	RI Department of Health
Jamie Pereira	jpereira@ripta.com	RI Public Transit Authority
VACANT		RI Turnpike and Bridge Authority
William Gasbarro	wgasbarro.ri.e911@verizon.net	RI E-911
Chief Antone Monroe	amonroe@nitribe.org	Narragansett Indian Tribe
Brian Glancy	bjglancy@verizon.net	Rep. appointed by RIEMA Director
Peter Ginaitt (Vice Chair)	PGinaitt@yahoo.com	Rep. appointed by RIEMA Director
Technical Sub-Committee EAS Members		
Lori Needham	lneedham@ribroadcasters.com	Executive Director, RIBA
William Hague	whague@wpri.com	Director of Engineering, WPRI
Brian Stachowiak	Brian.Stachowiak@cumulus.com	Chief Engineer, WPRO

Appendix B: Rhode Island Radio & TV Stations

Radio & TV Stations					
Radio	Frequency	City of License	State of License	General Manager	Phone Number
WADK-AM	1540	Newport	RI	Bonnie Gomes	401-846-1540
WARV-AM	1590	Warwick	RI	Bill Blount	401-737-0700
WMNP-FM	99.3	Block Island	RI	Bonnie Gomes	401-846-1540
WBRU-FM	95.5	Providence	RI	Hannah Maier-Katkin	401-272-9550
WBLQ-AM	1230	Westerly	RI	Chris DiPaola	401-322-1743
WLKW-AM	1450	West Warwick	RI	Tom Wall	401-467-4366
WHJJ-AM	920	Providence	RI	Rhonda Lapham	401-781-9979
WHJY-FM	94.1	Providence	RI	Rhonda Lapham	401-781-9979
WSKP-AM	1180	Hope Valley	RI	John Fuller	860-464-1065
WPRV-AM	790	Providence	RI	Holly Paras	401-433-4200
WNRI-AM	1380	Woonsocket	RI	Roger Bouchard	401-769-6925
WOON-AM	1240	Woonsocket	RI	Dave Richards	401-762-1240
WKKB-FM	100.3	Middletown	RI	Cesar Salas	401-781-1535
WRNI-FM	102.7	Narragansett Pier	RI	Torey Malatia	401-351-2800
WPMZ-AM	1110	East Providence	RI	Tony Mendez	401-726-8413
WSJW-AM	550	Pawtucket	RI	Francis Hoffman	920-884-1460
WPRO-AM	630	Providence	RI	Holly Paras	401-433-4200
WPRO-FM	92.3	Providence	RI	Holly Paras	401-433-4200
WRNI-AM	1290	Providence	RI	Reynaldo Almonte	401-942-3881
WSTL-AM	1220	Providence	RI	Patricia Varner	508-336-4233
WWBB-FM	101.5	Providence	RI	Rhonda Lapham	401-781-9979
WWKX-FM	106.3	Woonsocket	RI	Holly Paras	401-433-4200
WWLI-FM	105.1	Providence	RI	Holly Paras	401-433-4200
WVEI-FM	103.7	Westerly	RI	Phil Zachary	617-779-5800
WWRX-FM	107.7	Bradford	RI	John Fuller	860-464-1065
WEAN-FM	99.7	Wakefield-Peacedale	RI	Holly Paras	401-433-4200
WCRI-FM	95.9	Block Island	RI	Chris Jones	401-294-9274
WELH-FM	88.1	Providence	RI	Torey Malatia	401-351-2800
WKIV-FM	88.1	Westerly	RI	Mike Novak	916-251-1600
WCVY-FM	91.5	Coventry	RI	James Murphy	401-821-8540
WDOM-FM	91.3	Providence	RI	Steve Sears	401-865-2091
WJHD-FM	90.7	Portsmouth	RI	Pauline St Dennis	401-683-2000
WJMF-FM	88.7	Smithfield	RI	Sean Erwin	401-232-6150
WQRI-FM	88.3	Bristol	RI	Carol Sacchetti	401-254-3282
WRIU-FM	90.3	Kingston	RI	Maureen McDermott	401-874-4949
WXHQ-LP	105.9	Newport	RI		
WSUB-LP	96.7	Ashaway	RI		

WXEV-FM	91.1	Bradford	RI	George Small	978-665-9111
124196-LP	96.5	Providence	RI		
WIGV-LP	96.5	Providence	RI		
176661-FM	91.5	Pascoag	RI		
WFOO-LP	101.1	Providence	RI		
WPVD-LP	101.1	Providence	RI		
196448-LP	101.1	Providence	RI		
WWRI-LP	95.1	Coventry	RI		

TV General Managers					
Television	Frequency	City of License	State of License	General Manager	Phone Number
WLNE-DT	ABC	New Bedford	MA	Chris Tzianabos	401-453-8000
WSBE-DT	PBS	Providence	RI	David Piccerelli	401-222-3636
WPXQ-DT	ION Television	Block Island	RI	Dawn Cleaver	860-444-2626
WNAC-DT	FOX	Providence	RI	Patrick Wholey	401-438-7200
WLWC-DT	The CW	New Bedford	MA	Tina Castano	401-351-8828
WRIW-DC	Telemundo	Providence	RI	Moses Garcia	401-463-5575
WJAR-DT	NBC	Providence	RI	Vic Veters	401-455-9100
WPRI-DT	CBS	Providence	RI	Patrick Wholey	401-438-7200

Monitoring Requirements

Requirement 1: All EAS participants are required to have equipment installed and operational, capable of receiving and processing Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) - formatted EAS alerts in a manner consistent with the Commission's EAS rules as amended by the *Fifth Report and Order*.

Requirement 2: EAS Participants should check with their device manufacturers for instructions on how to access the IPAWS feed, because methods of entry and pin numbers are different for various devices.

Appendix C: Rhode Island Cable System Information & Monitoring Requirements

Cable System Information					
Community	FCC IDENT	Service Area	Company Name	Phone	EAS Code
Woonsocket	RI0020	1	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA01
Central Falls	RI0018		Verizon	401-525-2134	
Lincoln	RI0017				
Cumberland	RI0019				
Smithfield	RI0015				
North Smithfield	RI0016				
Burrillville	RI0038				
Glocester	RI0037				
Providence					
Providence	RI0003	2	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA02
North Providence	RI0004		Verizon	401-525-2134	
Cranston					
Cranston	RI0013	3	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA03
Scituate	RI0032		Verizon	401-525-2134	
Johnston	RI0014				
Foster	RI0045				
East Providence					
East Providence	RI0024	4	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA04
Pawtucket	RI0005		Verizon	401-525-2134	
Bristol					
Bristol	RI0011	5*	Full Channel	401-247-1250	CATVSA05
Barrington	RI0010				
Warren	RI0012				
Bristol**	RI0011	5*	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA05
Barrington**	RI0010				
Warren**	RI0012				
**No Verizon Service in Bristol County		*Two cable providers in Service Area 5			
Warwick					
Warwick	RI0008	6	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA06
West Warwick	RI0009		Verizon	401-525-2134	
East Greenwich	RI0007				
Coventry	RI0006				
West Greenwich	RI0022				
North Kingstown	RI0040				
Exeter	RI0039				
Newport***					
Newport***	RI0027	7	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA07

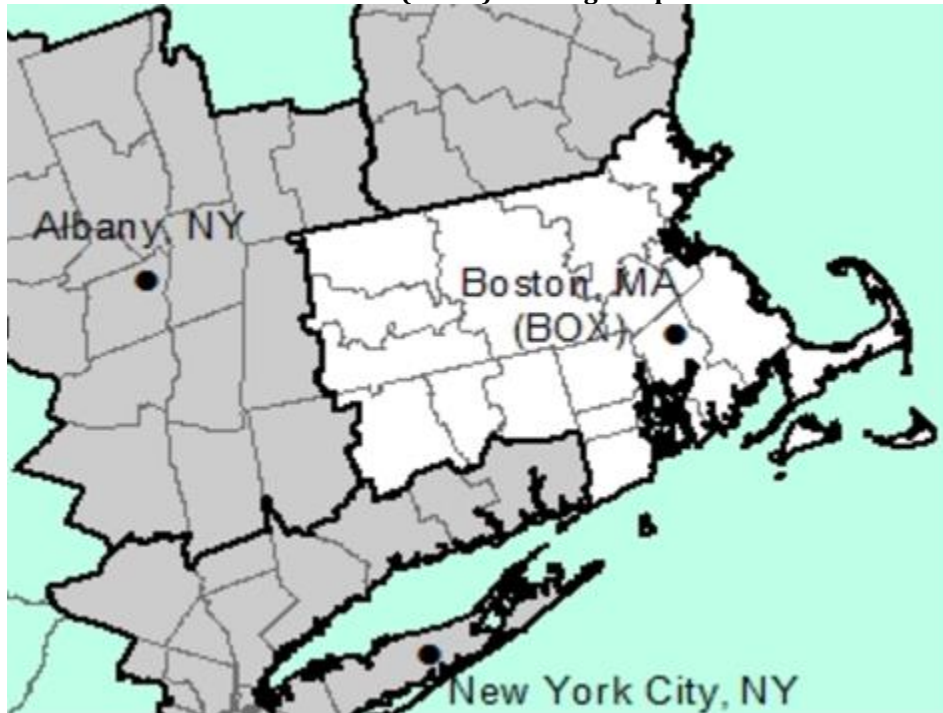
Tiverton***	RI0025				
Portsmouth***	RI0026				
Middletown***	RI0028				
Little Compton***	RI0029				
Jamestown***	RI0030				
Newport Naval Station***	RI0031				
***No Verizon Service in Newport County					
Narragansett***					
Narragansett***	RI0021	8	Cox	401-821-1919	CATVSA08
South Kingstown	RI0023		Verizon	401-525-2134	
Westerly	RI0001				
Richmond	RI0036				
Hopkinton	RI0034				
***No Verizon Service in Newport County					
New Shoreham					
New Shoreham	RI0002	9	Block Island Cable	401-596-2460	CATVSA09
Reserved					
Reserved		12			CATVSA12
Reserved		13			CATVSA13
Note 1: Verizon is in every service area Cox is, except on the East Bay - excludes Newport & Bristol County.					

Monitoring Requirements	
Requirement 1: All EAS participants are required to have equipment installed and operational, capable of receiving and processing Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) - formatted EAS alerts in a manner consistent with the Commission’s EAS rules as amended by the <i>Fifth Report and Order</i> .	
Requirement 2: EAS Participants should check with their device manufacturers for instructions on how to access the IPAWS feed, because methods of entry and pin numbers are different for various devices.	

Appendix D: National Weather Service Taunton (WBOX) Contact List & Weather Service Office Coverage Map

Name	Address / Contact Information	Organization
Robert Thompson	NOAA/National Weather Service Forecast Office, Taunton, MA (KBOX) 445 Myles Standish Blvd. Taunton, MA 02780 phone: 508-823-1983 robert.thompson@noaa.gov	NOAA Meteorologist in Charge
Glenn Field	NOAA/National Weather Service Forecast Office 445 Myles Standish Blvd. Taunton, MA 02780 phone: 508-823-1983 glenn.field@noaa.gov	NOAA Warning Coordination Meteorologist
I. Ross Dickman	NOAA/National Weather Service Forecast Office, Upton, NY (KOKX) Brookhaven Avenue Upton, NY 11973 phone: 631-924-0517	NOAA Meteorologist in Charge

Taunton (KBOX) Coverage Map



Appendix E: Federal Partners Contact List (New England)

Name	Address / Contact Information	Organization
Jarrett Devine CEM	Federal Regional Center Old Marlborough Road Maynard, MA 01752 phone: 978 461-5357 mobile: 617-835-4880 jarrett.devine@fema.dhs.gov	FEMA Region I Acting IT Branch Chief Regional Emergency Communications Coordinator
Jerry Zarwanski	Chairperson Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications P.O. Box 2794 1111 Country Club Road Middletown, CT 06457-9294 phone: 860-685-8157 fax: 860-685-8363 Jerry.zarwanski@po.state.ct.us	Region 19: New England
Stephen Verbil	Vice-Chairperson Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications P.O. Box 2794 1111 Country Club Road, Middletown, CT 06457-9294 phone: 860-685-8127 fax: 860-685-8363 email: Stephen.verbil@po.state.ct.us	Region 19: New England
James E. Lanni	Associate Public Utilities Administrator for Operations and Consumer Affairs Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities & Carriers (RIDPUC) 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888 phone: 401-222-3500 Ext 120 fax: 401-222-2099 email: jim.lanni@ripuc.state.ri.us Website: http://www.ripuc.org	Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (RIDPUC) Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS) POC for the FCC
Rick Andreano	DHS Office of Emergency Communications 37 Tokanel Drive Londonderry, NH 03053 phone: 202-744-7275 email: richard.andreano@hq.dhs.gov	Office of Emergency Communications Regional Coordination Program (Focus: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont)

Appendix F: Amber Alert

Background

The AMBER Alert program, also known as *America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response Plan*, is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Justice. It is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters and transportation agencies to activate an urgent bulletin in the most serious child-abduction cases where there is enough information to make the alert effective.

Broadcasters use the Emergency Alert System to air a description of the abducted child, suspected abductor and any vehicle that may have been used in the abduction. The goal of an AMBER Alert is to instantly galvanize the entire community to assist in the search for and safe recovery of the child.

It was created in 1996 in honor of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was abducted and murdered near her home in Arlington, Texas. In the wake of this tragedy a young woman suggested that there should be emergency alerts sent to the public through the broadcasters when a child is abducted. She followed up with a letter, and that letter was used to create the first AMBER Plan. What began as a local effort has grown to include a system of AMBER Alert programs in every state that have been responsible for the successful recovery of 656 children.

Guidelines for Issuing AMBER Alerts

Every successful AMBER plan contains clearly defined activation criteria. The following guidance is designed to achieve a uniform, interoperable network of plans across the country, and to minimize potentially deadly delays because of confusion among varying jurisdictions. The following are criteria recommendations:

Law Enforcement Confirms an Abduction

AMBER plans require law enforcement to confirm an abduction prior to issuing an alert. This is essential when determining the level of risk to the child. Clearly, stranger abductions are the most dangerous for children and thus are primary to the mission of an AMBER Alert. To allow activations in the absence of significant information that an abduction has occurred could lead to abuse of the system and ultimately weaken its effectiveness. At the same time, each case must be appraised on its own merits and a judgment call made quickly. Law enforcement must understand that a “best judgment” approach, based on the evidence, is appropriate and necessary.

Risk of Serious Bodily Injury or Death

Plans require a child be at risk for serious bodily harm or death before an alert can be issued. This element is clearly related to law enforcement’s recognition that stranger abductions represent the greatest danger to children. The need for timely, accurate information based on strict and clearly understood criteria is critical, again keeping in mind the “best judgment” approach.

Sufficient Descriptive Information

For an AMBER Alert to be effective in recovering a missing child, the law enforcement agency must have enough information to believe that an immediate broadcast to the public will enhance the efforts of law enforcement to locate the child and apprehend the suspect. This element requires as much descriptive information as possible about the abducted child and the abduction, as well as descriptive information about the suspect and the suspect's vehicle. Issuing alerts in the absence of significant information that an abduction has occurred could lead to abuse of the system and ultimately weaken its effectiveness.

Age of Child

Every state adopts the "17 years of age or younger" standard; or, at a minimum, agree to honor the request of any other state to issue an AMBER Alert, even if the case does not meet the responding state's age criterion, as long as it meets the age criterion of the requesting state. Most AMBER plans call for activation of the alert for children under a certain age. The problem is that age can vary---some plans specify 10, some 12, some 14, 15, and 16. Differences in age requirements create confusion when an activation requires multiple alerts across states and jurisdictions. Overuse of the AMBER Alert system will undermine its effectiveness as a tool for recovering abducted children.

NCIC Data Entry

Immediately enter AMBER Alert data into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system. Text information describing the circumstances surrounding the abduction of the child should be entered, and the case flagged as a Child Abduction. Many plans do not mandate entry of the data into NCIC, but this omission undermines the entire mission of the AMBER Alert initiative. The notation on the entry should be sufficient to explain the circumstances of the disappearance of the child. Entry of the alert data into NCIC expands the search for an abducted child from the local, state, or regional level to the national. This is a critical element of any effective AMBER Alert plan.

Summary of Department of Justice Recommended Criteria

- There is reasonable belief by law enforcement that an abduction has occurred.
- The law enforcement agency believes that the child is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death.
- There is enough descriptive information about the victim and the abduction for law enforcement to issue an AMBER Alert to assist in the recovery of the child.
- The abduction is of a child aged 17 years or younger.
- The child's name and other critical data elements, including the Child Abduction flag, have been entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system.

How do AMBER Alerts work?

Once law enforcement has been notified about an abducted child, they will decide whether or not to issue an AMBER Alert based on their AMBER Alert program's criteria. They will

provide the geographic area where the alert should be issued as well as any available information about the child, abductor or suspected vehicle used in the abduction.

Once issued, the alerts are distributed by broadcasters and transportation agencies. They are also sent to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, which redistribute the alerts, per a request by the U.S. Department of Justice, to a network of secondary distributors that includes Internet service providers, digital billboards, truckers and others.

How are AMBER Alerts distributed to cell phones?

AMBER Alerts are distributed to cell phones as part of the AMBER Alert program's secondary distribution through the Wireless Emergency Alert program which is also known as the Commercial Mobile Alert System.

What is the Wireless Emergency Alert program?

The Wireless Emergency Alert program is operated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It distributes notifications from authorized federal, state, local and tribal government agencies that alert customers with capable devices of imminent threats to safety or an emergency situation. The messages are intended as a supplement to the existing Emergency Alert System, which broadcasts alerts over radio and television.

In addition to AMBER Alerts, the program includes National Weather Service, Presidential and imminent threat alerts. If you own a capable mobile device, you will automatically receive these alerts when you are in the geographic area where an alert has been issued.

Because the alerts are sent on a special wireless carrier channel called Cell Broadcast they are not affected by congestion on the voice or SMS text channels. The alerts are transmitted simultaneously to all mobile devices within range of the cellular carrier towers in the affected area. The system does not need to know your mobile number and it does not track your whereabouts; it simply broadcasts the alert, and any mobile devices that can "hear" the alert will display it to the user.

New England AMBER Alert State Contacts (Updated February 2017)	
State	Point of Contact
Rhode Island	Lt. Michael Casey Rhode Island State Police 401-444-1000
Connecticut	Lt. Paul Vance Connecticut State Police 860-685-8190
Massachusetts	Trooper Nicole Morrell Massachusetts State Police 508-820-2121
Maine	Lt. Brian McDonough Maine State Police 207-624-7076

New Hampshire	Sara Hennessey New Hampshire State Police 603-271-3636
Vermont	Lt. Kevin Lane Vermont State Police 802-875-2112
Source: http://www.missingkids.com/AMBER/Contacts	

Appendix G: Mass Notification System (CodeRED)

Background

CodeRED is designed to enable local government officials to record, send, and track personalized voice, email, and text messages to thousands of citizens in minutes, CodeRED serves as a part of our emergency management preparedness plan, connecting Rhode Island residents and staff to the information they need. CodeRED enables local and state government and public safety officials to record, send and track personalized voice, email, text and social media messages to citizens as well as staff. The Emergency Communications Network (ECN), the parent company of the CodeRED product, employs proprietary mapping technology and patented delivery methods as integral components of its high-speed notification system which has been in operation since 1998.

Operational Overview

CodeRED mapping interface allows Rhode Island to geo-target messages to specific impacted audiences ensuring notifications are timely and applicable to recipients.

Technology

ECN's robust platform and sophisticated infrastructure includes multiple built-in redundancies to support thousands of jobs running simultaneously. Proprietary, trademarked technology is used to ensure messages are delivered in their entirety regardless if the call is picked up by a person, or by an answering device. If a call is missed, message recipients may simply dial the system back via the toll-free number displayed on their caller ID, to hear the last message delivered to their phone. ECN manages its entire network to maintain control over dialing and doesn't rely on third-party, shared lines to place calls. This dedicated network ensures client jobs initiate immediately and do not have to be queued or competed by available phone lines with other dialing priorities.

Message Speed

ECN's massive system capacity is able to transmit millions of messages an hour. Each account is throttled and system resources are allocated to match the local telephone infrastructure, resulting in more connected calls, less network congestion, and fewer busy signals. The CodeRED system was built for use during time-sensitive situations, when what matters most is that communications are getting through as quickly as possible.

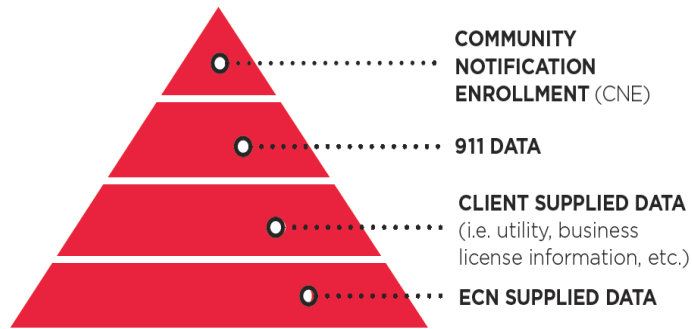
Mapping

CodeRED utilizes ESRI mapping as a foundation and has created area selection tools that range from polygons to simple paint brush tools, allowing users to quickly become familiar with the map's features. ECN hosts all components of the mapping interface, relying on no third-party providers. ECN includes local mapping with the license of CodeRED and additionally, has the ability to provide custom maps using client supplied GIS layers, or by integrating client supplied street layer mapping to the ESRI foundation.

Calling Data

The client accesses a database which is populated by drawing from multiple sources. All compiled data is verified and addresses are assigned lat/long coordinates by ECN's custom

multi-layer geo-coding service. ECN provides initial calling data for immediate use; this allows communities to be up on CodeRED quickly. Data is acquired through various commercial sources and includes residential and business data as well as some mobile phones and VoIP numbers. This data is provided at no additional cost and serves as the foundation for each client's database. The middle data tier is supplied by the client. Communities using CodeRED typically provide data from their local utilities as well as their 911 data. ECN geo-codes all client supplied data as a standard part of the database building process. And finally, the most accurate layer of the pyramid is created by entries on the Community Notification Enrollment (CNE) page. All information added to CNE is instantly available for use in CodeRED.

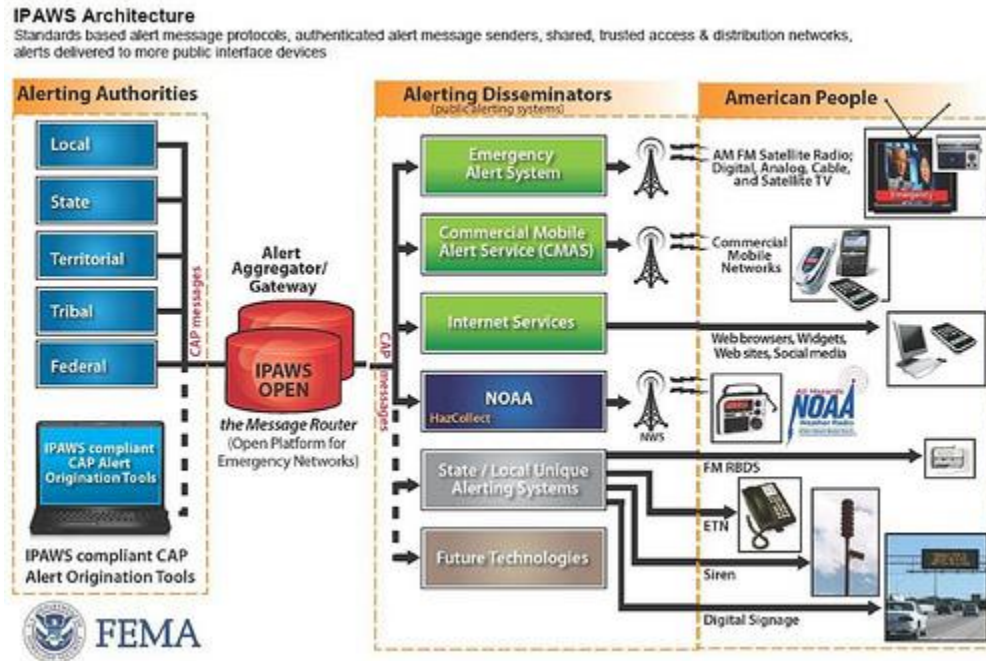


CodeRED Mobile Alert Application. The CodeRED Mobile Alert app is geo-aware and sends push notifications to a subscriber's device when alerts are issued for the geographical area they are in. This advanced technology enables local officials to reach those passing through their jurisdiction and also helps to protect citizens when traveling outside their local coverage area in any community that uses CodeRED.

Appendix H: Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS)

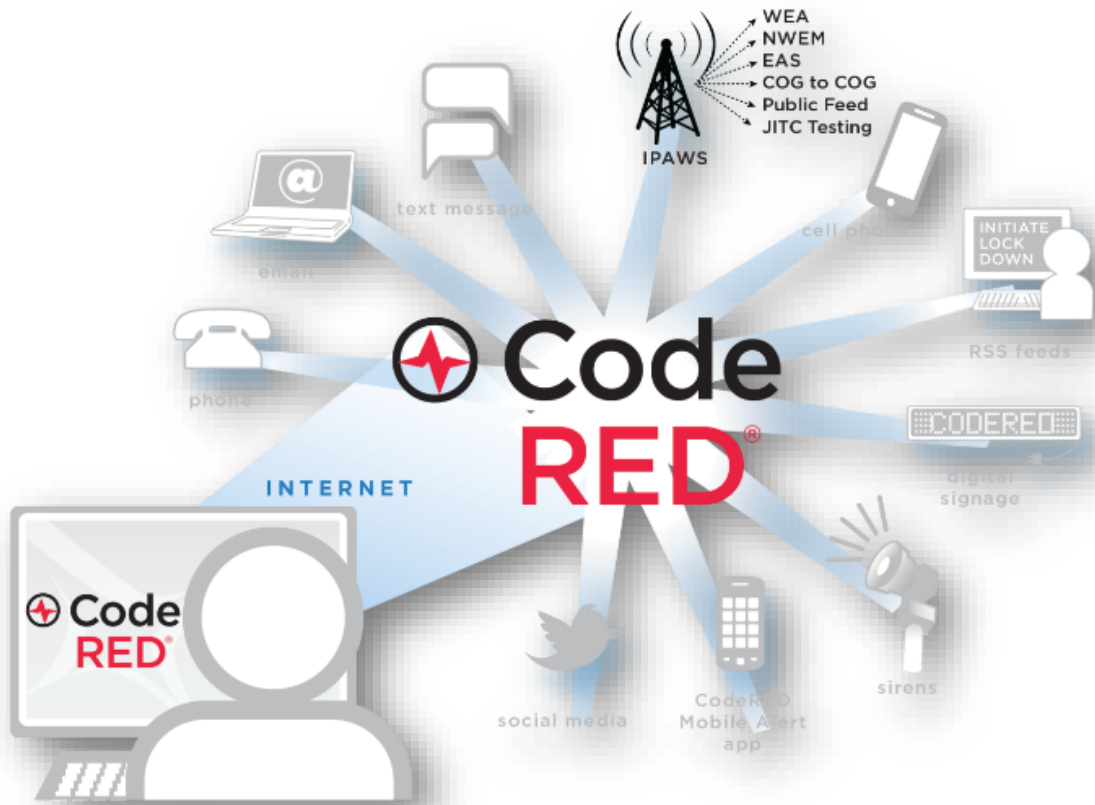
Background

The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) is the nation's official alert and warning infrastructure used by federal, state, local, and tribal authorities to alert the public of serious emergencies from one single interface. The Rhode Island CodeRED system for IPAWS service enables authorized officials to send secure, critical communications from a single portal to several communication pathways.



Operational Overview

CodeRED supports all modes of communication including EAS, WEA, NWEM, Public Feed, COG to COG, and the JITC Test Environment. Available as a stand-alone platform or integrated into your existing CodeRED notification service, CodeRED for IPAWS allows approved municipalities to convey imminent threat notifications and AMBER alerts for missing children all from one system login and one launch sequence. Communicating through multiple channels simultaneously ensures maximum reach, helping protect people and property. Our in-house experts work closely with FEMA IPAWS officials on a daily basis recommending future enhancements and certifying that our solution maintains full compliance with FEMA guidelines and regulations. Unlike other IPAWS tools on the market today, CodeRED provides for all dissemination modes through the IPAWS aggregator and provides clients access to the secure FEMA JITC testing lab.



Appendix I: EAS & Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)

Background

On April 9, 2008, the FCC adopted requirements for the Commercial Mobile Alert System (CMAS) (now referred to as Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) in 47 C.F.R. Part 10. WEA has become operational. Under WEA, Commercial Mobile Service (CMS) providers (more commonly known as cell phone providers) elect to voluntarily participate in WEA. They must follow the regulations in Part 10 if they elect to participate.

Operational Overview

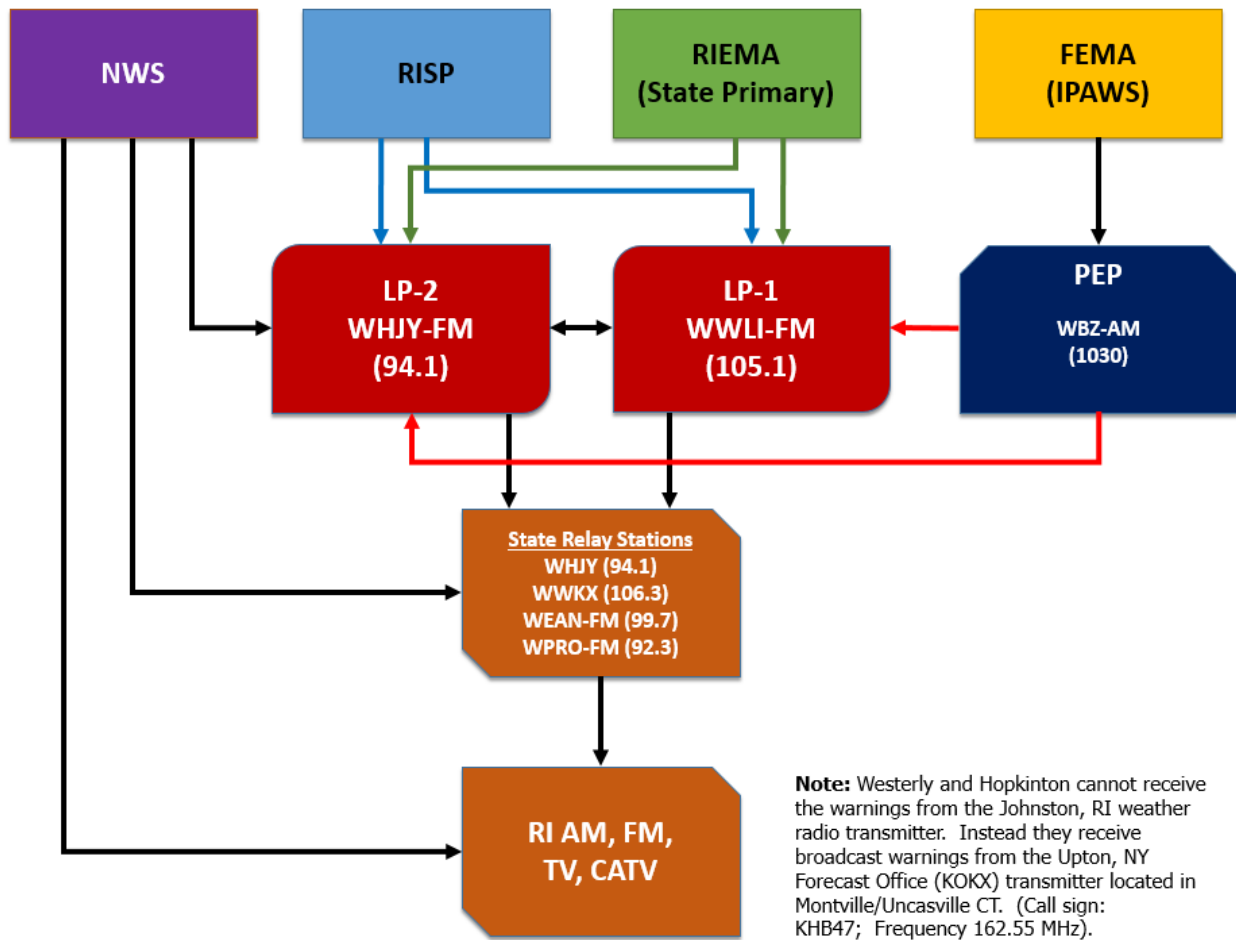
EAS participants and participating CMS providers will both be transmitting alerts to the public. Participating CMS providers will receive WEA alerts from FEMA. WEA alerts will be developed from certain elements in the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP). Once a CMS provider has elected to participate in WEA, that provider's subscribers can then opt-in to receive WEA alerts at no cost. Based on the capabilities of a CMS provider, a CMS subscriber can receive three classes of alert messages: (1) Presidential, (2) Imminent Threat and (3) AMBER.

1. A Presidential Alert is issued by the President of the United States or the President's authorized designee.
2. An Imminent Threat Alert is an alert that meets a minimum value for each of three CAP elements: Urgency, Severity, and Certainty. The CAP Urgency element must be either Immediate or Expected. The CAP Severity element must be either Extreme or Severe. The CAP Certainty element must be either Observed or Likely. A tornado warning is an example of an Imminent Threat Alert.
3. An AMBER Alert is initiated by a state or local government official based on each state's or locality's AMBER Alert Plan.

A WEA alert message processed by a CMS provider includes five mandatory CAP elements—Event Type; Area Affected; Recommended Action; Expiration Time (with time zone); and Sending Agency. This requirement does not apply to Presidential Alerts. A WEA alert message processed by a CMS provider must not exceed 90 characters of alphanumeric text and must not include an embedded Uniform Resource Locator (URL), which is a reference (an address) to a resource on the Internet, or an embedded telephone number. This prohibition does not apply to Presidential Alerts. In summary, cell phone users will be receiving WEA text alert messages that contain about the same amount of information as is contained in the digital header portion of an EAS message.

Because of the limited nature of WEA messages, a cell phone user upon receiving a WEA text alert message, will most likely begin to search for additional information about the alert. The additional information may be available through the EAS. Therefore, it is important for EAS participants to monitor for the EAS messages for the affected area and be ready to transmit those messages as soon as possible. It is assumed that WEA and EAS alerts will be available from the government at the same time.

Appendix J: Rhode Island EAS Message Distribution, Authorized Sources for Activating EAS & Monitoring Assignments



Updated: January 25, 2018

A. National EAS Alert/Message Distribution

A National alert/message, which originates from the White House, is delivered through the Primary Entry Point (PEP) network (WBZ-AM) to all National Primary EAS Source stations. In Rhode Island the PEP will transmit to both Local Primary (LP) stations; LP-1 WWLI-FM (105.1) and LP-2 WHJY-FM (94.1). All alerts/messages received at WWLI-FM are immediately broadcast. State Relay stations are WHJY-FM (94.1), WWKX (106.3), WPRO-PM (92.3) and WEAN-FM (99.7) three of the four monitor LP-1 and LP-2 for redundancy. All remaining Participating National Stations, cable systems and Wireline video providers in Rhode Island monitor two sources. In summary, all State Primary (SP) and Participating National (PN) stations, including cable and video wireline providers directly monitor the NP and/or SP stations. These stations indirectly monitor the NP station via SECC approved monitoring assignments of other Participating National (PN) stations. Please refer to table below for details:

Radio Stations	Monitoring Assignment 1 (WBZ-AM)	Monitoring Assignment 2	Optional Third
WHJY-FM	X	NA	NA
WWLI-FM	X	NA	NA
All other SPs and PNs	All remaining PN Stations, cable systems and Wireline video providers in Rhode Island monitor two sources.		
Special Note (Weather Only): For Westerly & Hopkinton, RI (Washington County – SAME 044009), signals are transmitted from NWR Transmitter KHB47 (162.550) out of Montville/Uncasville, CT.			
WCTY-FM	X	NA	NA
WNLC-FM	X	NA	NA
NWR Transmitter KHB47 162.550: https://www.weather.gov/nwr/sites?site=KHB47			
NOAA Weather Radio Towers: https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=100vLnERm-RPnR6kpEG1EEyfq9ys&hl=en&ll=40.53890327835422%2C-140.06116350000002&z=3			

B. Rhode Island EAS Alert/Message Distribution

All local or county EAS activation requests are directed to either the State EOC in Cranston or the Rhode Island State Police HQ in Scituate. Alerts are distributed from those locations via both dedicated full-time telephone circuits and a combination microwave/VHF radio system, maintained RIEMA to all State Primary Stations. All other Participating National Stations, cable systems and video Wireline providers monitor two of the State Primary Stations, with the exception noted in section I.

C. Connectivity & Redundancy

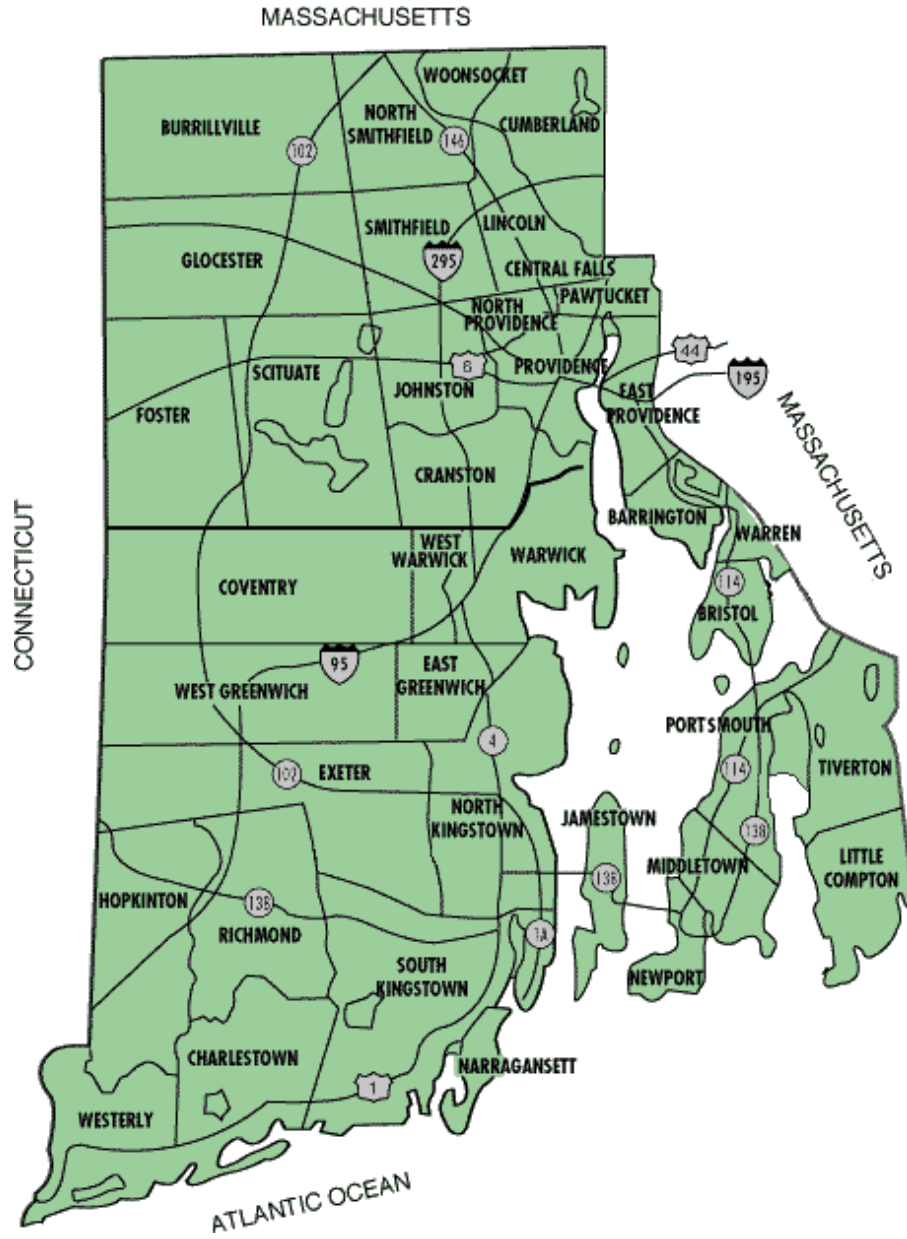
The Primary method of distribution by the State of Rhode Island is the FEMA IPAWS system, originated from a state authorized IPAWS alerting tool. The secondary distribution method will be Low Band Radio (44.45 MHz), originated from an EAS Encoder Box, this connects RIEMA, RISP HQ, and WWLI-FM in the City of Providence.

D. Authorized Sources for Activating EAS

Primary / Alternate	Agency	Contact
STATE Primary	Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA)	RIEMA Duty Officer 401-255-0951
STATE Alternate	Rhode Island State Police (RISP)	Scituate Barracks 401-444-1000
Actions		
To Request an EAS Activation	Contact RISP Message Center	800-842-0200 or 860-685-8190 (from anywhere)
To Request an AMBER Alert	Contact RISP Message Center	800-842-0200 or 860-685-8190 (from anywhere)

Appendix K: EAS Operational Areas

In Rhode Island, the entire state is one (1) operational area.



Appendix L: Monitoring Sources

It is suggested that all EAS participants monitor National Weather Service (NWS) KBOX-AM radio transmitter with coverage appropriate to their coverage area in addition to the above requirements. Rhode Island locations and frequencies are listed in:

- *Appendix C: Rhode Island Cable System Information & Monitoring Requirements* on page 36; and
- *Appendix J: Rhode Island EAS Message Distribution, Authorized Sources for Activating EAS & Monitoring Assignments* on page 49.

Appendix M: Authorized Originator & EAS Event Codes

Originator	EAS = Broadcast Station or Cable System
Nature of Activation	Event Codes
Emergency Action Notification (National)	EAN
National Information Center	NIC
National Periodic Test	NPT
Originator	PEP = Primary Entry Point
Nature of Activation	Event Codes
Required Monthly Test	RMT
Required Weekly Test	RWT
Administrative Message	ADR
Originator	WXR = National Weather Service
Nature of Activation	Event Codes
Avalanche Warning	AVW
Avalanche Watch	AVA
Extreme Wind Warning	EWV
Storm Surge Warning	SSW
Storm Surge Watch	SSA
Originator	CIV = Civil Authorities
Nature of Activation	Event Codes
Flood Watch	FLA
Flood Statement	FLS
Hazardous Material Warning	HMW
High Wind Warning	HWW
High Wind Watch	HWA
Hurricane Warning	HUW
Hurricane Watch	HUA
Hurricane Statement	HLS
Law Enforcement Warning	LEW
Local Area Emergency	LAE
Network Message Notification	NMN
911 Telephone Outage Emergency	TOE
Nuclear Power Plant Warning	NUW
Practice Demo Warning	DMO
Radiological Hazard Warning	RHW
Severe Thunderstorm Warning	SVR
Severe Thunderstorm Watch	SVA
Severe Weather Statement	SVS
Shelter in Place Warning	SPW
Special Marine Warning	SMW

Special Weather Statement	SPS
Tornado Warning	TOR
Tornado Watch	TOA
Tropical Storm Warning	TRW
Tropical Storm Watch	TRA
Tsunami Warning	TSW
Tsunami Watch	TSA
Volcano Warning	VOW
Winter Storm Warning	WSW
Winter Storm Watch	WSA

Appendix N: EAS Header Code Information

A. EAS Header Code Analysis (EAS/SAME Protocol)

Under existing FCC regulations, an EAS/SAME digital header Code contains the following elements and is sent in the following sequence:

1. [Preamble] ZCZC-ORG-EEE-PSSCCC+TTTT-JJJHHMM-LLLLLLLLL- (sent three times)
2. Attention Signal
3. Aural, Visual, or Text Message
4. [Preamble] NNNN (sent three times)

[Preamble] = (Clears the System) - Sent automatically by your encoder.

ZCZC = (Start of ASCII Code) - Sent automatically by your encoder.

ORG = (Originator Code) - Preset once by the user, then sent automatically by the encoder. See the following section for the code you must use.

EEE = (Event Code) - Determined by the user, each time an alert is sent. See the following section for the codes to be used in the Rhode Island.

PSSCCC = (County-Location Code) - Determined by the user, each time an alert is sent. See the following section for the assigned codes of all Rhode Island jurisdictions.

TTTT = (Duration of Alert) - Determined by the user, each time an alert is sent. This indicates the valid time period of a message in 15 minute segments up to one hour and then in 30 minute segments beyond one hour; i.e., +0015, +0030, +0045, +0100, +0430 and +0600.

JJJHHMM = (Ordinal-Julian Date/Time-of-Day) - Sent automatically by the encoder.

LLLLLLLL = (8-Character ID, Identifying the EAS participant, National Weather Service Office, Nuclear/Industrial Plant, or Civil Authority operating that encoder.) Preset Once by the user, then sent automatically by the encoder. See the following section for the format to be followed by all users in constructing their "L-Code".

Attention Signal (853 Hz and 960 Hz) - must be sent if an aural, visual or text message is sent.

NNNN = (End-of-Message Code) - Must be initiated manually at the end of every EAS alert originated by all EAS sources. **A failure of the system will occur if this code is not sent to reset the decoders of all EAS participants that carried that alert.**

B. Rhode Island Originator Codes

Originator Codes to be used by sources in Rhode Island:

WXR to be used only by National Weather Service Offices.

CIV to be used only by Government Officials as delineated in *Appendix J: Rhode Island EAS Message Distribution, Authorized Sources for Activating EAS & Monitoring Assignments*.

EAS to be used by all EAS participants (broadcasters, cable operators, etc.) EAS participants will almost always be relaying EAS messages from the above authorities. However, rarely there may be an emergency condition that requires an EAS participant, in coordination with emergency management, to use their EAS equipment to originate an EAS message.

C. Rhode Island Event Codes

The only required EAS Event codes are the ones listed below. All other codes are optional. However, certain optional codes are recommended because this state is prone to various emergency conditions such as tornado, flood, evacuation, etc. Please refer to *Appendix M, Authorized Originator & EAS Event Codes*.

MANDATED FCC EVENT CODES: EAN, NIC, NPT, RMT, RWT

Note: EAS participants should check the capability of their EAS systems to insure they can decode these required event codes (see Part §11.31e).

D. Location Codes

FCC rules specify the EAS/SAME Locations codes in the PSSCCC format. The first digit ("P") is used to indicate one-ninth of a local jurisdiction such as a county, parish, local jurisdiction, etc. as located in the CCC element.

P Digit	Location
0	Entire Area
1	Northwest
2	North
3	Northeast
4	West
5	Central
6	East
7	Southwest
8	South
9	Southeast

The second set of two digits ("SS") indicates the state.

Therefore, a message targeted to the entire state of Rhode Island would have the SS code of 09 and the EAS/SAME message PSSCCC code would be 009000.

The SS code is also used to designate offshore areas (marine areas). The offshore area code for the Rhode Island is SS code 73. The NWS description for code 73 is as follows:

Western North Atlantic Ocean, and along U.S. East Coast, from Canadian border south to Currituck Beach Light, North Carolina.

Appendix S, State County, Local & Offshore ANSI Codes contains a list of the ("SSCCC") codes for the Rhode Island offshore areas.

The third set of three digits ("CCC") indicate the county, parish or local jurisdiction

Appendix S, State County, Local & Offshore ANSI Codes contains a list of the Rhode Island state and county American National Standards Institute (ANSI) codes. The list of codes for the entire United States is provided at the following web site:

<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ansi/data/13000.html>

E. EAS Participant Identification Codes

This 8-character (LLLLLLLL) code is affixed to every EAS message originated or re-transmitted by every EAS Encoder. The code identifies the particular EAS participant including broadcasters, cable operators, NWS Offices, or civil authorities operating that encoder. "L-Code" IDs must adhere to the following formats. No deviation from these formats is allowed, since using certain other characters would cause an error in the system.

Broadcasters:

Single Station: WXXX

Two Stations using a common EAS Encoder-Decoder: "WXXXWYYY"

Three or more Stations using a common EAS Encoder-Decoder: The call letters of one of the stations is sufficient. All other stations sending the alert should keep a log of alerts sent, as should the station whose call letters are used in the L-Code.

Cable Operators:

Use the FCC Cable ID Number.

National Weather Service Offices:

Use the Letters "NWS" followed by the call sign of the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) station sending the alert.

Civil Authorities:

Use three components in constructing the 8-character code:

Portion of "L Code"	Source of Characters
First four characters	First four letters of the name of the jurisdiction
Next two characters	Abbreviation for type of jurisdiction
Last two characters	Abbreviation for type of agency

Jurisdiction Type abbreviations:

Type	Use
State	ST
City	CY
Town	TN
Village	VL
County	CO
Township	TP
Municipality	MY

Agency Type Abbreviations:

Type	Use
Fire Department	FD
Police Department	PD
Traffic Authority	TA
Emergency Services	ES
Emergency Management	EM

Appendix O: Guidance for EAS Participants in Programming EAS Decoders

This plan is designed to serve as a guidance tool for EAS participants and emergency managers to effectively use the EAS for providing warning messages to the citizens of the Rhode Island.

It covers the parts of the plan that are needed to comply with FCC regulations. Specifically, a list of monitoring assignments (EAS sources) is provided so that all EAS participants will have two monitoring assignments. Contacts and meetings with your SECC should be held to fully understand this plan and the accompanying appendices. This plan provides information so that authorized officials can use EAS sources to originate alerts. The alert will then travel over the EAS system according to the monitoring plan. State and local agencies should strive to get EAS origination equipment installed and tested using trained personnel.

The FCC requires that all EAS participants monitor two sources that link them to an NP station. Accordingly, strict adherence to the monitoring assignments in *Appendix J: Rhode Island EAS Message Distribution, Authorized Sources for Activating EAS & Monitoring Assignments* will ensure compliance with this requirement. Since most decoders have more than two audio inputs, EAS participants are encouraged to utilize the extra inputs to monitor additional EAS sources, such as NWS transmitters, for alerts that could impact their audiences and subscribers. EAS participants should refer the FCC rules for guidance in connecting to an appropriate data source.

Each EAS alert that you want to program your EAS equipment to respond to will require three elements: (1) the Event Code you want it to respond to, (2) the Jurisdiction (Location codes) that the event should apply to, and (3) the Mode of Operation you want it to respond in.

A. Modes of Operation

All EAS decoders are capable of manual and automatic operation. Some models also offer a Semi-Automatic Mode.

Manual Operation Mode: This mode will only notify personnel of any incoming EAS alert that has been programmed into the EAS equipment. An operator must manually take action to cause the alert to be transmitted.

Automatic Operation Mode: This mode would be used with a Program Interrupt connection to the EAS Unit. Audio and/or video is "looped through" the EAS Unit so that the unit can interrupt the audio/video programming when necessary. In automatic operation, the unit receives an EAS alert that has been programmed into it for automatic interrupt. The unit immediately interrupts programming to transmit the alert.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If an EAS participant operates as an unattended facility for any period of time, the FCC requires that the EAS equipment be operated in automatic operation mode during that period of time.

Semi-Automatic Operation Mode: Under this mode, when the EAS unit receives an EAS alert that has been programmed into it, it will begin a preset countdown to automatic interrupt. The idea is for personnel to transmit the EAS alert manually at the earliest convenience. If the alert is not transmitted by the time the countdown expires, the EAS unit will take over and transmit the alert. The same could apply to a broadcast automation system, where the automation system should insert the received alert in the next commercial break. If it fails to do that, the EAS unit will interrupt to transmit the alert at the end of the time out.

You can program your EAS unit to respond to different alerts in different modes, such as responding to all weather watches in Manual Mode, and all weather warnings in Automatic Mode. The RMT, which must be re-transmitted within 60 minutes of receipt, could be programmed for Semi-Automatic Mode with a 60-minute countdown. This would give personnel the opportunity to run the RMT at a break in programming. However, if forgotten, the EAS unit would then do it to prevent an FCC violation.

B. Location Codes

If you want to receive EAS messages for areas beyond the requirements set by the FCC (such as the county for your broadcast City of License), you must program your EAS equipment for those additional Location codes.

Also, you must program your EAS equipment to receive EAS messages that contain certain Event codes. They are specified in paragraph C below. If you want to receive additional EAS messages such as tornado warnings, evacuation notices, etc., you must program your EAS equipment for those Event codes.

C. Event Codes That MUST be programmed into EAS Decoders

This is an FCC requirement for all EAS participants that must have EAS equipment (see Part §11.31):

Code	Type	Required Action
EAN	Emergency Action Notification (National EAS Activation)	Must be re-transmitted immediately.
NIC	National Information Center	
NPT	National Periodic Test	
RMT	Required Monthly Test containing your Location code.	Must be re-transmitted within 60 minutes of receipt.
RWT	Required Weekly Test containing your Location code.	Logged upon receipt from a monitored source, but not re-transmitted.

D. Suggested Programming Sequence for EAS Decoders

The following is an example of the list of events that are suggested for entry into Rhode Island EAS decoders.

Event Code	Description	Location Code	Operation Mode
EAN	National EAS Activation	Not Applicable	Automatic
NIC	National Information Center	Not Applicable	Manual
NPT	National Periodic Test	Not Applicable	Manual
RMT	Required Monthly Test	License Jurisdiction	Timed Relay
RWT	Required Weekly Test	License Jurisdiction	Manual (for logging)
CAE	Child Abduction Emergency	Entire State	Automatic
CDW	Civil Danger Warning	As required	Automatic
CEM	Civil Emergency Message	As required	Timed Relay
EVI	Evacuation Immediate	As required	Automatic
FFW	Flash Flood Warning	As required	Automatic
FLW	Flood Warning	As required	Timed Relay
FRW	Fire Warning	As required	Timed Relay
LAE	Local Area Emergency	As required	Timed Relay
TOE	KOK911 Telephone Outage Emergency	As required	Timed Relay
NUW	Nuclear Power Plant Warning	As required	Automatic
SVR	Severe Thunderstorm Warning	As required	Timed Relay
SMW	Special Marine Warning	As required	Timed Relay
TOR	Tornado Warning	As required	Automatic
TSW	Tsunami Warning	As required	Timed Relay

While it is understood that participation is voluntary, it is recommended that these events be programmed with the “operation mode” as suggested in the table above.

Appendix P: EAS Scripts & Formats

A. Test Scripts and Formats

The following test scripts and formats can be used by Rhode Island EAS participants including EAS sources (such as Emergency Management), when originating EAS tests.

1. RWT

No script is required for the RWT. Entire test takes about 10.5 seconds. Format follows.

1. Stop regular programming
2. Optional announcement to audience identifying EAS digital tones as an EAS test
3. One second pause
4. Send EAS Header Code three times (Use RWT Event Code for this test)
5. One second pause
6. Send EAS End of Message Code three times
7. One second pause
8. Resume normal programming

2. RMT

EAS sources originating this test should use the following format. The test script used below is an example but sources are encouraged to use this portion of the test to provide audiences with general emergency information about their area. EAS participants will receive the test in this format and must re-transmit it within 60 minutes of receipt.

1. Stop regular programming
2. Intro: "This is a test of the (state or area name) Emergency Alert System."
3. One second pause
4. Send EAS Header Code three times (Use RMT Event Code for this test)
5. One second pause
6. Send EAS Attention Signal (8 seconds)
7. This station is testing the Rhode Island Emergency Alert System. Equipment that can quickly warn you during emergencies is being tested. If this had been an Actual emergency or Amber Alert, official messages would have followed the alert tone. This concludes this test.
8. One second pause
9. Send EAS End of Message Code three times
10. One second pause
11. Resume normal programming

Timing Note: The script above can be read in 10 - 15 seconds. All other elements of the RMT (the Header Codes and an 8 second Attention Signal) take about 30 seconds. The goal of writing this short script is to fit the entire test into 40 seconds. This will allow EAS participants to air the RMT followed by a 20 second promotional announcement in a 60 second spot. Also, including a promotional announcement would allow for the EAS video crawl to complete its presentation before normal programming resumes.

B. Real Alert Activation Script and Format

EAS sources originate the alert in the following format.

1. One second pause
2. Send EAS Header Code three times (Use the appropriate Event Code from the list provided in *Appendix N: EAS Header Code Information* for your state.)
3. One second pause
4. Send EAS Attention Signal (8 seconds)
5. Example Activation Announcement: "We interrupt regular programming to activate the (state or area name) Emergency Alert System. At the request of (EAS source), all EAS participants are requested to transmit the following announcement. This is the (state or area name) Emergency Alert System. Important information will follow."
6. Transmit Emergency Message. Do not exceed 1 ½ minutes!
7. Example Termination Announcement: "This is the (state or area name) Emergency Alert System. All EAS participants are requested to transmit the preceding announcement, which was issued by (EAS source). We now resume normal programming."
8. One second pause
9. Send EAS End of Message Code three times (manually if not done automatically)
10. One second pause
11. Resume normal operations

EAS Use Decision Points

The decision points that follow are the responsibility of incident management. Note that not all decision points may be necessary and some decision points may be combined during rapidly escalating situations.

Decision Point: *Public warning is needed for a weather event.*

The National Weather Service is the only agency authorized to issue weather warnings.

Rhode Island is served by the National Weather Service office located in Taunton, MA. If local officials feel weather warnings are needed (i.e. a tornado is spotted, flooding is occurring, etc.), this information should be relayed and/or discussed with the National Weather Service.

In some cases, language can be added to weather warnings to alert and provide the public with additional information such as emergency travel only restrictions and road closures during winter weather or other hazardous weather events.

Weather related emergency messages are typically disseminated through the Emergency Alert System (EAS) over designated broadcasters, NOAA Weather Radios, and electronic media. Local officials may supplement these warnings through the use of other dissemination methods such as reverse calling or vehicle mounted public address systems, as needed.

Decision Point: *Public warning is needed for a non-weather event.*

The public may need warning for events that are not weather-related such as hazardous material releases and escaped prisoners. In cases where local officials need to issue the warning, the following information should be included:

- Brief description of the hazard
- Geographic extent and locations included in the warning
- Duration of the warning
- Protective actions recommended

If using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), the message should be less than two minutes in broadcast length.

See the [Functional Needs Annex](#) for additional information regarding providing warnings to those with special needs such as visual, hearing, language, and cognitive impairments. Generally, the Incident Commander or designee develops the warning and chooses the method(s) of dissemination. Decision points follow for the various dissemination methods.

Decision Point: *Door-to-door and/or public address system notifications are needed.*

Door-to-door notifications are typically used for incidents affecting a relatively small geographic area or when other methods fail, time factors do not allow for the use of other methods, or the imminent threat warrants personal notification. Obvious limitations to door-to-door notifications include the level of personnel resources needed to perform the notifications. If possible, notification strike teams should be assembled. Vehicle mounted public address systems may also be used in this capacity; this is a primary warning method in outlying communities.

Decision Point: *CodeRED calling is needed.*

CodeRED calling allows the State of Rhode Island and the 39 municipalities to call multiple phone numbers relatively quickly in an emergency situation and provide a recorded message, usually the warning information. To implement reverse calling, the following process is used:

- Incident Commander or designee notifies local municipal dispatch of the need for CodeRED calling and provides the warning message and geographic area to receive the message.
- Local municipal dispatch then records the message and initiates the calls through their reverse calling system and procedures.
- Local municipal dispatch notifies the Incident Commander or designee when the calling begins and when the calling is completed.
- Incident Commander or designee may choose to verify receipt of the messages and success of the system by checking with those in the warned area.

Decision Point: *Activation of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and/or NOAA Weather Radio is needed.*

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a system that interrupts regular programming and broadcasts a signal and emergency information over designated radio stations and NOAA weather radios. This information is also frequently re-broadcast by other radio and television stations. NOAA weather radios may provide tone alerts, depending on the type of message and receiver features. Internet and cell phone users may additionally receive alerts through email, text messages, and software applications, depending on user preferences.

To activate EAS and/or NOAA Weather Radios in Rhode Island, the following process is used:

- Incident Commander or designee determines that the risk to life or property warrants immediate notification of the general public.
- Incident Commander or designee creates the warning / emergency message and notifies the RIEMA State Warning Officer of the need for EAS activation in Rhode Island.
 - The RIEMA State Warning Officer sends the message to the National Weather Service (NWS) in Taunton. (Note: If the NWS Taunton office is unreachable, their back-up office is the National Weather Service in KOKX). The individual contacting the NWS should state, "This is (name and title) of (organization). I request that the Emergency Alert System be activated for Rhode Island because of (description of emergency)."
 - The message is preferably sent to the NWS via fax, but other methods can be used.
- The National Weather Service will authenticate the request, and if authenticated, will activate the EAS.
- Designated broadcasters and NOAA Weather Radios transmit the message.

Appendix Q: EAS Tests

All EAS participants should refer to the appropriate FCC EAS rules for their respective requirements concerning the Required Monthly Test (RMT) and the Required Weekly Test (RWT). Generally, the requirements in the following sections regarding RMT's and RWT's apply to all EAS participants, including Participating National (PN).

Some exceptions to these rules include: (1) LPTV stations that operate as television broadcast translator stations are not required to have EAS equipment. (2) LPFM stations need only an EAS decoder. (3) Class "D" FM and LPTV stations do not need an EAS Encoder but they must have an EAS Decoder. (4) Cable systems and wireless cable systems serving less than 5,000 subscribers are required to install only an EAS decoder. Thus, these stations and cable systems are exempt from transmitting the weekly digital code RWT test. However, they must retransmit the monthly RMT tests as outlined below, minus the EAS Header Codes and Attention Signal. In addition, LPTV stations must present all EAS information visually, just as all other TV stations must do.

FM broadcast booster stations and FM translator stations, which entirely rebroadcast the programming of other local FM broadcast stations, are not required to have EAS equipment. Broadcast stations that operate as satellites or repeaters of a hub station (or common studio or control point) may satisfy their EAS equipment requirement through the use of a single set of EAS equipment at the hub station.

A. Required Weekly Test (RWT)

1. Transmission

Most EAS participants must transmit an RWT once each week at random days and times, except for the week of the RMT. There are no time-of-day restrictions. The RWT is a 10.5 second test, consisting only of the EAS Header and End of Message Codes. EAS participants should refer to the FCC rules concerning EAS for unique situations concerning the RWT. There are some exceptions for certain EAS participants.

2. Reception

EAS participants receiving an RWT from one of their monitored sources must log receipt of this test. No further action is required.

B. Required Monthly Test (RMT)

1. Transmission

RMT's are to be initiated by state or local EAS sources. Such sources may include State and local Emergency Operating Centers (EOCs). During the designated week for this test, all

EAS participants are to wait for this test and then react as described below in "Reception/Re-transmission of RMTs". These tests will always use the RMT event code.

2. Some Recommended Time Constraints

EAS sources are requested to use judgment in the scheduling of the times for RMTs. Since all EAS participants are required to rebroadcast this test within 60 minutes of receipt, care should be taken to not put undue hardship on television broadcasters and cable operators in particular when they are carrying their highest revenue programming. On a daily basis, these periods would include all major newscasts at early morning, noontime, evening and late evening. In addition, the times of major events are to be avoided, such as: pre-planned Presidential speeches, hours of a major national or local news story carried outside of normal newscast hours, local and national election coverage, and major sporting events like World Series games and the Super Bowl. EAS participants that have a complaint regarding the scheduling of RMTs in their area should contact their SECC Chair.

3. Reception and Re-transmission

All EAS participants receiving an RMT must re-transmit this test within 60 minutes of receipt. For Daytime-only stations receiving a nighttime RMT, this test must be re-transmitted within 60 minutes of the Daytime-only station's sign-on. Transmission of this RMT takes the place of the Required Weekly Test (RWT). Times should be logged for both the receipt and re-transmission of the RMT. EAS participant management should impress on their staffs that re-transmission of this test is mandatory, not optional. It is an FCC violation to fail to re-transmit this test within 60 minutes of receiving it. The best policy may be to set your EAS unit for a 60-minute automatic countdown upon receiving an RMT. If the operator on duty does not send the test manually within that window, the EAS unit will do it when time runs out. Refer to FCC Rules, Part 11, for RMT exceptions.

C. Time Duration and Location Codes

It is recommended that the time duration ("TTTT") used in the EAS Header Code for all EAS tests be at least one hour and 30 minutes, or +0130. This will ensure that, in a "daisy-chain" message relay situation, EAS participants located far from the test origination site have sufficient time to act on the test message before the message expiration time occurs. The location codes to be used in the EAS Header Code for all EAS tests shall reflect the state or area for which the test is intended. RMTs shall be re-transmitted unchanged except for the "LLLLLLLL-Code".

When transmitting the Required Weekly Test, EAS Participants shall use the event code RWT, and the Location codes are the state and county for the broadcast station's city of license or the state and county where a cable system is franchised to operate. Other location codes may be included upon approval of station or system management. EAS tests may be transmitted automatically or manually.

Appendix R: NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) & Rhode Island Broadcaster Locations & Frequencies

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) Locations & Frequencies					
County	SAME #	NWR Transmitter	Call Sign	Frequency	Remarks
Bristol	044001	Providence	WXJ39	162.400	ALL
Kent	044003	Providence	WXJ39	162.400	ALL
Newport	044005	Providence	WXJ39	162.400	ALL
Providence	044007	Providence	WXJ39	162.400	ALL
Providence	044007	Worcester	WXL93	162.550	ALL
Washington	044009	New London	KHB47	162.550	ALL
Washington	044009	Providence	WXJ39	162.400	Including Block Island

Rhode Island Broadcaster Locations & Frequencies			
City	Call Sign	Frequency	Remarks
Providence	WWLI-FM	105.1	Radio License Holding Cbc, LLC
Providence	WWBB-FM	101.5	Clear Channel Broadcasting Licenses, Inc.
Providence	WHJY-FM	94.1	Capstar TX Limited Partnership (Clear Channel Group)

Appendix S: State, County, Local & Offshore ANSI Codes

Name	FIPS State Numeric Code	Official USPS Code
Rhode Island	44	RI
Western North Atlantic Ocean, and along U.S. East Coast, from Canadian border south to Currituck Beach Light, N.C.	73	NA