

Jasper County Emergency Management Agency

1030 W 2nd St S, Newton, IA 50208-4629 Phone 641.792.7555 Email <u>ema@co.jasper.ia.us</u> Website www.jasperema-hls.org

Jim Sparks, Coordinator

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Date: January 14, 2015

Contact: Jim Sparks, Coordinator

JASPER COUNTY EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Jasper County Emergency Management announced recently the switch of the county wide alert system from CodeRED to the Wireless Emergency Notification Systems or WENS. WENS/Alert Iowa is a statewide mass notification and emergency messaging system which enables city officials with the ability to provide pre-recorded emergency telephone notification/information messages to public citizens in targeted areas or an entire city/county. The WENS platform enables officials to instantly communicate directly with landlines, cell phones, text-messaging, and email. Residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up for WENS to be sure they receive timely emergency notifications and weather alerts when issued.

Due to privacy restrictions, we were unable to transfer cell phone numbers from the CodeRED system to WENS. The new system's database will include listings for landlines only. If you signed up your cell phone number with CodeRED and would like to continue receiving emergency notifications, you must register with WENS. You can do this by visiting the Jasper County Emergency Management website at www.jasperema-hls.org. If you need assistance, please call 641-841-1181.