ACTIVITY 610
EOP

XIII. Alert and Warning

A. The Alert and Warning Section of the Ocean City Emergency Operations Plan has been drafted to set forth actions to be taken in alerting the Public to existing or potential emergencies. It is the responsibility of the Emergency Management Director to maintain alert and warning systems and to disseminate emergency messages to the public.

B. The following systems are in place to alert and warn the public of existing or pending hazards:

1. **Tri-County Emergency Alert System**

   a. The Tri-County Emergency Alert System allows officials to interrupt television and radio broadcasting to issue emergency information to the public.

   b. This system is maintained and can be activated by the Wicomico County Emergency Management Agency. (See Alerting List)

2. **Civil Defense Alert Sirens**

   a. There are six sirens located in Ocean City. These sirens are routinely used and are maintained by the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company. However, the sirens are equipped to transmit a different signal for Civil Defense alerts. This system would be utilized to alert the public to hurricanes, enemy attacks, etc.

   b. This system is maintained by the Ocean City Emergency Services, Electronics Division and can be activated for public warning by the Emergency Management Director.

3. **Cable Television Emergency Alerting System**

   a. The emergency alerting system allows officials to audibly access all cable television channels to issue emergency messages.

   b. This system is maintained by Comcast and can be activated by the Mayor, City Manager, Emergency Management Director and Comcast.

4. **Direct Contact/Radio and Television Stations**

This system allows officials to contact radio and television stations by telephone to have messages placed on the air.

5. **Door-to-Door Alerting/Vehicle PA Use**

Officials will go from door-to-door to alert the public to a pending or existing hazard as the situation warrants.

6. **Commercial Computer Message Signs**

By maintaining a list of owners of Computer Message Signs, officials in cooperation with business owners have emergency messages placed on the signs.

7. **Banner Planes**

Banner planes could be used to relay public safety messages.