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Subject: CT DEMHS - Informational Message - National Alerting Test Wednesday

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Department of
EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

INFORMATIONAL MESSAGE

On Oct. 4, 2023, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) plans a nationwide mobile alert test that will send an emergency SMS to all cellphones in the United States.

In coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the national test will be administered at approximately 2:20 p.m. ET on Wednesday, Oct. 4. It will consist of two portions that will test Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) capabilities.

The WEA portion of the test will be directed to all consumer cell phones. The messaging will be displayed in English or Spanish, depending on the language setting of the phone. The EAS portion of the test will be sent to radios and televisions.

FEMA and the FCC are coordinating with EAS participants, wireless providers, emergency managers, and others to prepare for this national test to minimize confusion and to maximize the public safety value of the test.

“The purpose of the test is to ensure that the systems continue to be an effective means of warning the public about emergencies, particularly those on the national level,” the FEMA website reads. “In case the Oct. 4 test is postponed due to widespread severe weather or other significant events, the backup testing date is Oct. 11.”



IPAWS National Test 2023

The test will reach millions of mobile phones across the country via Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), radio and television via the Emergency Alert System (EAS), and other communications pathways.

Test will take place at approximately 2:20 p.m. ET on Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023.

Backup testing date is Oct. 11.



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