



Sedgwick County News

www.sedgwickcounty.org

For Immediate Release:

May 1, 2023

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Sedgwick County Expands Free Public Alert System

(Sedgwick County, Kan.) – Sedgwick County Emergency Management (SCEM) is expanding use of **Civic Ready Alerts** to include 17 more cities, in addition to the initial test sites of Wichita and Mt. Hope. The free alert system notifies residents by phone or email of emergencies or important news in their area.

As of Monday, May 1, 2023, citizens can opt-in to receive messages regarding public safety, health, weather or other community bulletins from these cities:

- Andale
- Bel Aire
- Bentley
- Cheney
- Clearwater
- Colwich
- Derby
- Eastborough
- Garden Plain
- Goddard
- Haysville
- Kechi
- Maize
- Mt. Hope
- Mulvane
- Park City
- Valley Center
- Viola
- Wichita

“**Civic Ready Alerts** allows each city to customize what kinds of notifications it sends out and when,” said Julie Stimson, Director of Sedgwick County Emergency Management. “It’s an easy way to keep people informed of what’s happening in their own hometown, especially during times of danger.”

Signing up for **Civic Ready Alerts** is fast and easy on the SCEM website, [Emergency Management | Sedgwick County, Kansas](#). Citizens can specify how they want to be contacted – by email, text or voice call – and which notifications they would like to receive – from emergency and weather alerts to road closures and health advisories. By sharing a home address, residents can even receive alerts targeted for their neighborhood, through geo-fencing.

Notifications can also be translated instantly into 69 written languages and 31 spoken languages. Residents simply choose their preferred language when signing up.

“**Civic Ready Alerts** adds another layer to our warning system,” said Cody Charvat, SCEM Operations Officer. “We will still activate the Emergency Alert System on radio and TV when needed and send Wireless Emergency Alerts to your cell phone, but this gives us one more tool to reach residents who might be in harm’s way.”

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About Sedgwick County

The mission of Sedgwick County is to cultivate a healthy, safe and welcoming community through exceptional public services, effective partnerships and dedicated employees. Founded in 1867, the County has steadily grown to span 1,008 miles, has a population of over 516,000 people and contains 20 cities, including Wichita, the largest city in Kansas. The 2023 Adopted Budget of \$497.4 million focuses on improving compensation to ensure fair and competitive wages while being fiscally responsible to citizens, addressing environmental working conditions by funding modern and advanced equipment to ensure services can be provided safely and continuing the commitment to behavioral health services in our community. Sedgwick County's values of Trust, Integrity, Collaboration, Compassion and Innovation back the strategic plan that focuses on delivering the best services possible that are sustainable and manageable under the current economic and health crisis.