



Emergency Testing Reminds Hoosiers To Be Prepared

Proper preparation for emergency situations is often necessary for success. That is why the National Weather Service, Indiana State Police and other agencies and organizations gave Hoosiers a chance to be prepared March 27 with morning and evening statewide tests of the emergency communications system.

Indianapolis' Warning Coordination Meteorologist David Tucek was involved with the tests.

"In addition to our communications system tests, the day is a great reminder for Hoosiers to have their own emergency plan and kit ready," said Tucek. "After your plan and kit are in place, you should practice that plan."

INDOT's Emergency Planning and Response Manager Tom Vanderpool spends most of his workdays planning for possible emergencies.

"Whether at work or home, it's good to have a plan for any emergency," said Vanderpool. "INDOT uses policies and procedures from the state's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan or CEMP. Also, if needed, we establish a Department Operation Center on central office's ninth floor, and work in concert with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Emergency Operation Center for certain weather and non-weather emergency events such as acts of terrorism or health-related emergencies."

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security advises Hoosiers to "Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed, Get Involved" on its website, www.getprepared.in.gov.

The National Weather Service Forecast Office in Indianapolis offers current hazards, conditions, forecasts and weather safety information at www.crh.noaa.gov/ind/.