

# WHAT IS AN EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE?

An Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) is a pre-defined, geographic area that has been determined through analysis to require emergency planning. This pre-planning ensures that emergency management officials can make prompt and effective decisions to protect public health and safety. Your local emergency management agencies, in consultation with the Department of Energy and Energy Northwest, have created Emergency

Planning Zone Sections for those organizations' facilities located on the Hanford Site. In the unlikely event of an emergency, members of the public could be directed to take action deemed appropriate for the EPZ Section in which they reside, work, or visit. Please, look at the map on page 12 to identify which Emergency Planning Zone Section you live in.

# HOW WOULD I BE TOLD ABOUT AN EMERGENCY?

Residents within the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) in Benton and Franklin counties would be notified by warning sirens located within the EPZ, by EAS messaging over select radio stations (following siren activation), by direct electronic telephone notification, or by Tone Alert Radios provided for limited use in schools and selected residences with Special Notification Needs. Benton and Franklin counties use the **CodeRED** Telephone Notification System (TNS). When activated by county Emergency Management officials in response to an emergency, the **CodeRED** system would notify residents via phone call, text or email. Residents are encouraged to sign up using the links available on their county's Emergency Management webpage to receive the notifications.

Sign up for **CodeRED** at:

**Benton County residents:**

[www.bces.wa.gov](http://www.bces.wa.gov)

**Franklin County residents:**

[www.franklinem.org](http://www.franklinem.org)

People using recreation areas within the Emergency Planning Zones at the Richland Off-Road Vehicle Park, Horn Rapids Recreation Areas along the Yakima River (including the Horn Rapids County Park), Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility, Wahluke Hunting Area or Ringold Fishing Area will be notified by sirens sounding continuously for three minutes, followed by an audible message. They will be told to evacuate the immediate area and tune to the **Emergency Alert System (EAS) radio station KONA 610 AM / 105.3 FM, KORD 102.7 FM, or KZHR 92.5 FM (Spanish language)** for more information.

If there is an emergency on the Hanford Site that threatens public safety, people using the Columbia River will hear sirens sound continuously for three minutes, followed by an audible message. These sirens are a signal to evacuate the river. Tune to the EAS KONA 610 AM / 105.3 FM, KORD 102.7 FM, or KZHR 92.5 FM (Spanish language) for more information. Other radio and television stations may also broadcast emergency information. For any radiological emergency on the Hanford Site, personnel and boats provided by the U.S. Coast Guard and the county sheriff's departments will



# SIRENS

will sound for  
three minutes.

## REMEMBER:

Notification of an emergency at Columbia Generating Station or a Department of Energy nuclear facility does not always mean you should evacuate. Follow your county official's instructions. You may not need to do anything.

# WHAT ACTIONS WOULD I BE ASKED TO TAKE?

You may be asked to **EVACUATE** immediately or

You may be asked to **SHELTER IN PLACE** or

You may be asked to **MONITOR & PREPARE** or

You may be told no actions are necessary.

For more information, contact:

**Benton County Emergency Management**

Phone: (509) 628-2600

Web: [www.bces.wa.gov](http://www.bces.wa.gov)

**Franklin County Emergency Management**

Phone: (509) 545-3546 or (800) 258-5873

Web: [www.franklinem.org](http://www.franklinem.org)