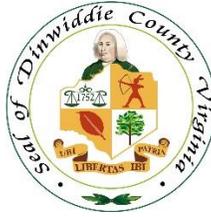


County of Dinwiddie

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 17, 2017

Contact: Dennis E. Hale, Division Chief of Fire & EMS
(804) 469-5388

County Urges Citizens to Register for Emergency Notification System

DINWIDDIE, VA – Dinwiddie County has used its CodeRED notification system for several years. The CodeRED system allows County officials to quickly deliver important messages to citizens. To date, the system has been used to help locate missing persons, announce water meter changes and alert citizens to weather events. CodeRED is a valuable tool for County officials in both emergency and non-emergency situations.

Dennis Hale, Fire Chief and Emergency Management Coordinator stressed that “No one should automatically assume their phone number is in the system.” Hale continued “With the proliferation of cellular technology and VoIP phones, many citizens and businesses no longer have classic landline telephones. This makes it difficult for the County to maintain the database within the CodeRED system. We rely on citizens and businesses to enter their information into the system.”

Citizens and businesses are encouraged to log into the Dinwiddie County website and click the link to “CodeRED” or “Emergency Notification”. From there, citizens will be able to enter information. CodeRED subscribers are able to specify the type of alerts they wish to receive and the manner in which they prefer to receive them.

Chief Hale advises “Even if you believe your information is already in the system, it is a good idea to log-in to verify and make updates. The system recognizes duplicate information and will not send multiple notifications to the same contact.”

Dinwiddie County will conduct a test of the CodeRED system on **September 27, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. (EST)**. Per Chief Hale “The test will serve several purposes. It will allow citizens to verify that the system contacts them, it will allow the County to test the effectiveness of the system during a high volume usage period, and the test will help to verify databases.”

Those without Internet access, or who have questions may call Dinwiddie County Fire & EMS at 804-469-5388, Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, to supply their information by phone.

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