



## Charleston County News Release

Release Number: 3358  
Date: November 7, 2011

### **NEWS ALERT: Nationwide Emergency Alert System (EAS) Test 11/09/11**

*Alert to Sound Over Radio and Television at 2 pm*

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the National Weather Service (NWS) will conduct the first-ever national-level test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

The test will take place **Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 2:00 PM EST.**  
**The test may be up to 60 seconds in length.**

This test is similar to the way local emergency alert system tests are conducted; **HOWEVER** this will be the first nationwide test that is expected to be broadcast **simultaneously** over all communication service providers: television stations (including digital television, cable, satellite audio and television services) and broadcast radio stations across the U.S. and several U.S. territories. This nationwide wide EAS Test will help determine the reliability of the system and its effectiveness in notifying the public of emergencies and potential dangers nationally and regionally.

#### **9-1-1 Facts Concerning Nationwide EAS Test :**

- The public is reminded this broadcast is only a TEST.
- Calls to 9-1-1 to inquire about the test are considered non-emergency calls. These types of calls may overwhelm the telephone network at emergency call centers and delay 9-1-1 from receiving calls from citizens reporting real emergencies. Please help us ensure that callers with actual emergencies can get through to 9-1-1.
- **Only call 9-1-1 if you have an actual emergency** requiring a response from police, fire or emergency medical services (EMS).
- Calls to 9-1-1 to get information about this test should not be made. For more information go to <http://transition.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/eas.pdf>

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