

## Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alerting Systems Postponed Until October 3, 2018

WASHINGTON –FEMA, in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), postponed the nationwide test of the [Emergency Alert System \(EAS\)](#) and [Wireless Emergency Alerts \(WEA\)](#) until Oct. 3 due to ongoing response efforts to Hurricane Florence.

The WEA portion of the test commences at 2:18 p.m. EDT, and the EAS portion follows at 2:20 p.m. EDT. The test will assess the operational readiness of the infrastructure for distribution of a national message and determine whether improvements are needed.

[Oct. 3 was the previously scheduled back-up date for the test](#), which was originally set up for this Thursday, Sept. 20. A backup date is always planned in case of widespread severe weather or other significant events on the primary test date. FEMA and the nation's emergency management community remain committed to the life-saving activities occurring through parts of North Carolina and South Carolina.

For further information on the test, go to <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-alert-test>.



On October 3, 2018 at approximately 2:20 EDT FEMA will issue a Nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System and Wireless Emergency Alerts to test national warning capabilities. The test message will be sent to all radio, TV, and compatible cell phones. Some cell phones may not receive the test message.

While we are used to the occasional EAS test via TV and radio, **this will be the first Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) test which will activate all of our smartphones.** As a reminder, WEA is currently activated by the Billings, MT National Weather Service Office for: Amber Alerts, Presidential Alerts, NWS Tornado Warnings and NWS Flash Flood Warnings.