

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS



During the recent wildfires and smoke issues, the city saw questions regarding how do citizens get information so they know what to do or how a situation will affect them. There are many ways to ensure you get notifications for alerts on weather events, natural disasters, accidents, and other unexpected occurrences. Kalama is served through the Cowlitz County Department of Emergency Management who provide emergency notifications through reverse 911 calling to landlines and cellphones

and updates on their website, Facebook, and Twitter. Agencies throughout the City will use phone calls, social media, and websites to also provide information. The easiest way to insure you are notified is to sign up for **hyper-reach**. Information on **hyper-reach** directly from the county materials:

Cowlitz County has implemented an emergency community warning system that is able to send emergency messages via telephone, cellular phone, or Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) to residents and businesses within the county. This is a reverse calling system therefore a phone number must be associated with the account. This system may be used by emergency response personnel to notify specific homes and businesses at risk with information about the emergency event. You will only be called when the associated address will be impacted by an emergency. The system is already programmed with landline phone numbers (both listed and unlisted) from phone company records. HOWEVER, unless you take the actions described below, it cannot contact your cellular phone, or VoIP phone. To ensure that you receive these warnings you will need to register the telephone numbers for your cellular phone or Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone.

Common reasons to sign up:

- *Receive emergency information affecting your home.*
- *Receive emergency information for locations other than your home (like your business or another family member that you care for).*

Type of information you may receive:

- *Police needing your help to solve crimes or find missing persons.*
- *Knowledge about a hazardous situation near your home (fire, hazardous materials release, or police response activities).*
- *Emergency protective measures during a disaster.*

Click here or visit to sign up:

https://signup.hyper-reach.com/hyper_reach/sign_up_page_2/?id=99002

You can also Google—"hyper reach Cowlitz" and follow the link/result.

Neither the public nor the emergency responders should rely solely on social media, or electronic devices as they may be out of commission. In those instances, be alert for sirens, drive by loud speakers, or door to door communications from official sources. Also don't forget to share official information with your neighbors, family, and friends, but be sure it is accurate and from a reliable source. In any kind of emergency, communication is key, and we are all in it together. **SIGN UP NOW FOR hyper-reach.**